

EDMONTON

FOLK FESTIVAL

GALLAGHER PARK
AUGUST 4-7 2016



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FOLK MUSIC
FESTIVAL

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Get the app!

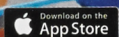


PHOTO BY - COOPER & O'HARA

EDMONTON FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

SITE MAP

97 AVENUE

96A STREET

96 STREET

MUTTART
CONSERVATORY

BIKE PATH



NO PUBLIC ACCESS

STAGE 6



REST AREA

STAGE 5

AREA 4
MARKETPLACE

STAGE 3

REST & SHADE
AREA

BIKE PATH

CONNORS ROAD

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|------------------|
| | First Aid | | Payphone |
| | Recycling | | Water Station |
| | Concessions | | Public Washrooms |
| | Smoking Area | | ATM |
| | Non Smoking Area* | | Bicycle Lockup |



*SMOKING IS PROHIBITED IN ALL AREAS EXCEPT WHERE DESIGNATED





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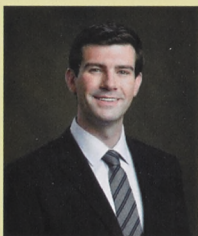
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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DON IVESON

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, I welcome everyone to the 2016 Edmonton Folk Music Festival. Edmonton has a thriving and vibrant musical community, and dynamic arts scene. The annual Folk Music Festival is one of the leading folk festivals in the world and one of our city's most highly anticipated events of the year. It is a celebration of folk music in all its forms, from celtic, bluegrass, gospel, roots and world beat. Events like this represent the diversity and multiculturalism our city is known for and we are proud to host this festival year after year to help showcase talented artists in folk music.

I thank the Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society and the countless volunteers who work to make this festival a success. These efforts go a long way to building a more vibrant, welcoming city. To those visiting, I hope you get a chance to explore all of Edmonton's amenities and experience our friendly, western hospitality. Enjoy the Festival!



MESSAGE FROM PREMIER RACHEL NOTLEY

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the annual Edmonton Folk Festival.

Edmonton Folk Festival is a highlight of Alberta's summer festival season, and one of my personal favourites. The energy and flair of the renowned musicians who will perform this weekend is

incredible. I hope the lineup this year will serve as a poetic reminder of how music inspires community.

This festival welcomes to the Capital Region performers and music lovers from all over the country. I know together we will experience the exceptional talent of the musicians who light up the stage.

My thanks to all those involved in organizing the Folk Festival and adding to the splendor of Alberta and its festival culture.



MESSAGE FROM MINISTER OF CANADIAN HERITAGE AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES, MÉLANIE JOLY

Welcome to the 2016 Edmonton Folk Music Festival! Every summer, Canadians in communities across the country love coming together at festivals to enjoy both our rich musical heritage and the innovative new sounds that move our culture forward. The

Government of Canada knows how important it is to give Canadians opportunities to experience the arts, which is why we are proud to be part of this year's Edmonton Folk Music Festival. With its eclectic and talented lineup, this festival invites audiences to explore different musical traditions and expand their cultural horizons. As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I commend all the organizers, artists and volunteers who helped make this event a success. Thank you for giving music lovers the chance to appreciate the richness and diversity of folk and other genres.



Welcome

MESSAGE FROM THE PRODUCER

It may take a village to raise a child but it takes a city like Edmonton to raise a festival like ours. I am often philosophical about how much progress there has been in travel, entertainment production values and communications in the past 50 years. We are extremely lucky to live in a country and city that can offer the best of everything to artist and visitor alike. If you want to see how much sound systems have improved, please google The Beatles at Shea Stadium.

Thank you to all who have played such an amazing part in the history of this festival, I know many of you continue to play a huge part in our success. I am always humbled by what I see when I walk through the gates on opening night.

There are many well-known folk legends here and many new and brilliant artists to discover. Please join me in extending a fabulous welcome to the artists of the 2016 Edmonton Folk Music Festival.

Terry Wickham
Producer

PHOTO BY - DELBERT KOSTURA

Stay in tune

Send us your comments and suggestions

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 4130, Edmonton, AB T6E 4T2

Twitter: @edmfestival

Facebook: facebook.com/edmontonfolkmusicfestival

email: admin@edmf.ab.ca

Office address:

10115 - 97A Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta

Phone: 780.429.1899 Fax: 780.424.1132

Check our web site at:

www.edmontonfolkfest.org

Our home page offers a year-round subscription link to information about the festival.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Board of Directors and the Members of the Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society welcome you to our 37th Edmonton Folk Music Festival.

If this is your first time attending our festival, get ready for not only some amazing music, but also a magical experience and sense of community that brings many of us back year after year.

There are many people to thank for making this type of event possible at such a reasonable cost. Our corporate sponsorships and grants, the army of volunteers, and last but certainly not least a small handful of very dedicated staff. It is obvious how passionate these people are about our festival by the level of dedication and energy they show.

Enjoy the next few days and we hope to see you back here again next year!

Peter Guest
Chair, Board of Directors

BANFF

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CREATIVITY

Saturday Night Jazz

August 6, 13, 20

Leeroy Stagger and Terra Lightfoot

August 7

Randy Bachman

August 11

Bruce Cockburn

September 24

Music for Heart and Breath Richard Reed Parry

October 1

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Foundation
for the Arts



PHOTO BY BRYAN COOPER

Gallagher Park

Once our Gallagher Park was known as “grassy hills” and was owned by Cornelius Gallagher, alderman and one-time mayor of Edmonton. Gallagher Park’s grassy hills weren’t the site of the folk festival until 1981 — but think of how lucky we are to have had them available to us since then.

Sure, we have to walk up the hill (and walk down the hill for the green onion cakes and popcorn, then walk back up again) but once we’re settled on the hill, what could be better? It’s a natural amphitheatre — so even if you didn’t wake up for the tarp run, you can still see the music. And at night, what’s more magical than the sea of flickering candles, or, if we’re lucky, the undulations of the northern lights?

Of course, what makes Gallagher Park great isn’t just the hill. The communities of Cloverdale, Strathern, and Bonnie Doon are patient and supportive throughout the festival. Over the course of the folk festival’s four days, over 100,000 people come through these neighbourhoods, walking through the normally quiet streets, shuttle busses run, and roads are shut down. They’re great neighbours, and we’re all grateful for it.

For this reason, however, it’s important that we be just as great neighbours. This means cleaning up after ourselves, leaving nothing behind at the end of the night, and leaving the area quietly when we head home after another wonderful night of music.

This way, the grassy hills will be waiting for us next year.

The Survival Guide

Thousands of us come back to Folkfest year after year, not only for the music, but because we have such a good time. Whether we're catching up with old friends in the Beer Tent, watching our kids' faces transformed with face paint or chasing the late night hunger pangs with an elephant ear, there are plenty of ways to have a great time at the festival, while taking in some of the best folk music on the planet.

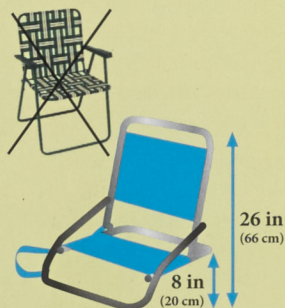
With 25,000 people on the site of Gallagher Park at once, we have a few ground rules and services to help everybody have a great experience over the four days.

WRISTBANDS

When you enter the gate you get a four-day wristband or a daily wristband, depending on what kind of ticket you have. All patrons must wear the wristband at all times, except for children 11 and under, and seniors age 80+.

SEATS

To avoid blocking the view of other patrons, use only seats with a maximum total seat height of 26 inches (66 cm), with a maximum seat leg height of no more than 8 inches (20 cm).



SMOKING

In consideration of non-smokers, and to comply with provincial laws and city bylaws, the non-smoking areas are extensive. Smoking is not permitted in the seating area of any stage, by tents at the top of the hill, the Family area, Beer Garden, the hearing-impaired area, access area on the west side of Main Stage, First Aid Tent, Dance Area and in any lineup. **If you smoke, please go to the top of the hill above Area 4, to the NE corner of Stage 1, and by the west end porta potties (night only). Please pinch and pocket your butts.**

KEEP IT CLEAN

Dispose of garbage and recyclables in the appropriate cans, including cigarette butts.

LINEUPS

You can start lining up at 2:00 PM on Thursday and Friday and at 7:00 AM on Saturday and Sunday. No overnight queues, please.

Order of entry is determined by our optional lottery system. The gates will open at 4:30 PM on Thursday and Friday and at 9:30 AM on Saturday and Sunday. "Walk, don't run," to quote the Ventures.

TARPS

The maximum size is 8 by 10 feet (2.5 by 3.0 metres). Please make room, don't be a space hog! Don't forget to take your tarp and all other belongings home with you every night. Items left will be taken to the Lost and Found.

TENTS AND LEAN-TOS

Pitch a tent only at the top of the hill. It should be small and maximum 1.5 metres in height. Tents have to be dismantled and taken home every night. Low lying lean-tos can be used lower on the hill only in the case of rain.

SUPPLIES TO REMEMBER

You could be at the festival for more than 12 hours, so you'll need: a hat, sunscreen, water bottle, bandages, insect repellant, hand wipes, your medications, comfortable footwear, warm clothes for the evening and possibly rain gear. Our Music and Merch Tent may have some of these items.

KIDS

Kids love the festival, but don't leave them unattended. It's easy for youngsters to get lost in the crowd. Please encourage them to use their "inside voices" during performances — your neighbours are trying to hear the music.

LOST KIDS, LOST AND FOUND

Lost kids and lost items can be dropped off or claimed at the Information Tent. Look for the big balloons! After the weekend, check with the festival office for lost items. **After September 15, items that are unclaimed will be donated to charity.**

INFORMATION TENT

Look for the big balloons! Our volunteers have information to help you enjoy your day. They also have a comment book to share your blog ideas the old-fashioned way.

CANDLES

Folk fest wouldn't be the same without candles on the hill, but be cautious. Tarps are extremely flammable. Inexpensive candles and cups may be purchased from roving sellers. Fire regulations make the use of covers for candles mandatory.

REMEMBER YOUR NEIGHBOURS

That means staying seated and keeping the noise down so everyone can enjoy the performances. Dance to your heart's content, but at the sides of Main Stage or Stages 1-3 and 5-7 — not at your seat. Please use friendly discussion to sort out boundary disputes or other problems. If you can't, Liaison Security Crew members wearing yellow vests will help. There is also help at the security tent east of Cloverdale Hall by the public plate return station, or at the top of Main Stage hill.

Pets, drugs, alcohol, video, high backed chairs, audio recording equipment, glass containers, laser pointers, and sliding are not allowed.

PHOTO BY: THOMAS O'HARA

SOME SERVICES TO HELP YOUR FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE

FIRST AID

The First Aid tent is staffed with health care professionals. The First Aid tent does not supply items such as sunscreen and insect repellent.

WATER STATIONS

Fill up your water bottle at the water stations by the Cloverdale Community Hall and Stage 5, and Beer Garden.

WATER PARK

There is a water spray park beside Cloverdale Hall. What a great way for your kids to cool down!

MESSAGE BOARD

Want to hook up with friends and don't have a cell phone? Leave a note at the message board, located in the information tent.

YOGA SESSIONS

These will be held on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM in the dance area to the left of Main Stage.

Emergency Evacuation

Being a prairie city, Edmonton is occasionally subject to severe weather, and Folkfest is prepared for it. We rely on our own sources to monitor weather and determine if severe storm warnings are specific to our site.

This advance warning system allows us to determine if and when to evacuate in advance of a storm. Should a storm be coming our way and we need to evacuate, announcements will be made by the following means:

1. Announcements at active stages.
2. Notice on the Festival App.
3. Display on screens at Main Stage.
4. Personnel announcements from the thoroughfare.

Please remain calm (no need to run), gather your belongings from the hill, and use an exit convenient to access your means of transport.

NO SLIDING

Sliding on the hill can be dangerous for both sliders and anyone who may be in their path. The festival has been informed that we can no longer permit this. It is a liability issue. We would all feel terrible if someone got hurt. We ask parents to keep an eye on their kids to make sure they are not sliding. Sliders will be warned that it is not permitted, and they could be asked to leave the grounds if they persist. Thank you for your co-operation.



Accommodating Special Needs

At the Edmonton Folk Music Festival, we are committed to accommodating people with specific needs so they too can enjoy the festival with the least amount of hassle.

If you have special needs due to a disability, the Access crew can answer questions, provide you with assistance and give you information about:

- a designated listening area for people in wheelchairs or with mobility issues
- program schedules in Braille
- assistive-listening systems for the hard of hearing.

For patrons who require the assistance of an aide, the aide will be admitted free of charge.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

- Limited Parking is available near the main gate (94 Street, 97 Avenue) for vehicles marked with official handicapped parking signs.
- Access crew volunteers are stationed at the main gate and access sites.
- People who use wheelchairs may listen to the main stage artists in a designated listening area just west of the Main Stage.
- Power lines on site are ramped or rerouted to reduce or eliminate obstacles and allow the free movement of wheelchairs.
- In the event of inclement weather, volunteers will assist people with disabilities off the site or to sheltered areas as quickly and safely as possible.

HEARING

For festival folkies who are hard of hearing, there are:

- magnetic induction loops at all performance areas
- loop system receivers for those with no hearing aid or no T-switch. Receivers can be picked up and returned at the Information Tent.

The magnetic induction loop system consists of an antenna placed beneath the sod in a 25-square-foot area in front of the stage.

- If you use a hearing aid equipped with a T-switch (telecoil), simply switch your aid to the "T" position.
- Then sit within 12 feet of the blue hearing-access signs located in the centre of each looped area.
- Your hearing aid will act as a receiver; no other equipment is required.

If you have any questions about hearing access, contact an Access crew volunteer through the Information Tent.

FM receivers and accessories will be available at the Information Booth. A credit card or driver's licence is required as a deposit.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED

If you have a visual disability, ask at the Information Booth for the workshop schedule in Braille or large print.



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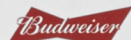
ALL AGES GENERAL ADMISSION | 18+ VIP & BEER GARDENS
GATES 11:30 AM EACH DAY | MUSIC STARTS AT 12:30 PM



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BACARDÍ



Getting Here

NO PARKING

There is no public parking close to the festival site. Vehicles parked in Cloverdale will be tagged and towed. Here are some alternatives:

PARK 'N' RIDE

SUPPORTED BY EDMONTON TRANSIT

The transit location is at Bus Stop #2749 on 87 Ave. (U of A Butterdome).

Parking event rate is \$5.00* available from all Campus Lots.

*In effect 1 hour before bus service begins.

ETS fares in effect.
ETS passes are valid.
(Bus Drivers do NOT carry change.)

Hours for Park 'n' Ride

Thursday	3:30 PM – 11:30 PM
Friday	3:30 PM – 12:30 AM
Saturday	8:30 AM – 1:00 AM
Sunday	8:30 AM – 11:30 PM

Park 'n' ride buses arrive and leave from the northeast corner of Gallagher Park 97 Ave. & 92 St. every 30 minutes.

Regular transit service is also available along many routes. You can get bus schedules at the Information Booth, or call

- 780-496-1600 for recorded information 24 hours a day
- 780-496-1611 to speak to a real person
- takeets.com and hit "plan your trip" from Butterdome to Edmonton Folk Festival

PARK YOUR PEDALS

Cycle down and check your bike at the free, supervised lock-up. It is located behind Stage 6, south of the Muttart Conservatory at the intersection of the bike paths. The lockup is unsupervised overnight.

Hours

Thursday	1:30 PM – 11:30 PM
Friday	1:30 PM – 12:30 AM
Saturday	9:00 AM – 12:30 AM
Sunday	9:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Go Green

The Edmonton Folk Festival is committed to minimizing the festival's impact on the environment.

IT'S UP TO YOU! PLEASE PLACE ITEMS IN THE PROPER BIN.

LOOK FOR A WASTE DIVERSION STATION!



Check the map (pages 2 & 3) for the locations.

Returnables such as pop bottles and cans can be discarded in one of the many marked receptacles around site.

General Waste receptacles can receive all other waste including paper and cardboard. Materials are sorted for recycling and composting at the contractor's facilities.

Reusable cups: Bring your own reusable cup.

Compostable beer cups in the Beer Garden! Thanks to Big Rock!

Compostable cutlery and containers are used at concessions.

After use, they can be placed in Cleanit-Greenit compost bins. Look for our Green Team for more information.

REUSABLE PLATES

- Pay a \$2 deposit when you purchase food served on a plate.
- Return your plate to the plate return depot and get your \$2 deposit back.
- Please return plates as soon as possible after eating. We have a limited number and must keep them circulating.

The reusable plate program is made possible with the assistance of the Edmonton Community Foundation. The plates are shared with other festivals and organizations.

HELP SCHOOLS!!! HELP THE ENVIRONMENT!!! ORGANIC WINE!!!

Now is the time to get great savings on organic red and white wine by the case! Not only do you save money but you also help raise funds for school environmental projects in Mexico.

cleanitgreenit.net/renacimientoverde

This is your opportunity to help schools, children, and the environment. To order your Wine Case 780.488.7926



ARE YOU LOOKING TO RAISE FUNDS?

Are you a non-profit organization, school, team, etc. looking to raise funds? Then join our annual Cleanit Greenit compost fundraiser event! Call Vanessa 780.488.7926 for details.

CG's Organic Soil™ fundraiser sales helped raise more than \$41,490 for Edmonton community groups in 2015!! **Interesting fact** – your compostables from last year's Festival went into CG's Organic Soil™ for the fundraiser sales.

WE ALSO DO ESA'S!

Cleanit Greenit's sister company, Advanced Enviro Engineering does Environmental Site Assessments (Phase I, II, and III), Waste Reduction Programs, Soil and Water testing, and more! Phase I ESA's are needed when you buy, sell, or re-finance apartments, buildings, commercial or industrial properties. Check out our website!!! Call 780.488.7926 for a quote!

WE'RE CLEANING IT - WE'RE GREENING IT!

Compostable plates, cups, beer cups and cutlery are back again. These go into the Cleanit Greenit green bins. Look for diversion centres; they come in three's - a big **organics** cart, a nice **recycling** bin and an itty bitty **waste** bin. Remember: plastics from home are garbage!



CLEANIT GREENIT
COMPOSTING SYSTEM INC.

www.cleanitgreenit.net



www.advancedenviro.ca

Food! Glorious Food!



PHOTO BY - DELBERT KOSTURA

Calico Baking Company (West End)

Returning to the festival, this year over by Stage 6, with yummy baked goods, both sweet and savoury. You are sure to get something delicious at the Calico chuck wagon.

Cheesecake Café (Mobile)

This mobile bicycle cart supplies cheesecake on a stick. Sadly, they can't bike off the calories for you.

Chocolate Covered Bananas

A chocolatey treat with a healthy middle, chocolate covered bananas come with many possible toppings and are a cool frozen bite on the hot days. Frozen fruit bars and real fruit smoothies too!

Churros King (West End)

Churros King returns to the festival with lovely Spanish savoury dishes like paella and of course Churros!

Fantasia Italiana (Family Area)

Bueno! Gelato, cappuccino, granite, Caesar salads and pasta. One of the spots for your caffeine fix - try an affogato! Mama mia!

Fat Franks (Beer Garden)

A true Edmonton classic - get your dogs and smokies to go with your cold beer in the beer garden.

Filistix (West End)

Eclectic menu items and signature favourites: slaw, green onions cakes, lentil curry, minced pork and pineapple. Also melon, ginger, and mint-infused water to quench your thirst!

Hoang Long

Flavours of lemongrass and papaya feature on this menu inspired by Vietnam. Skewers and Banh Mi sandwiches and don't forget the decadent Vietnamese coffee.

Hong Kong Bakery

Your bubble tea headquarters! Also try the Shanghai noodles, chicken satay and the addictive coconut buns!

Jackie O's (Top of Hill)

New to the festival and worth the climb up the hill - Jackie O's features gourmet mini donuts in flavours like maple bacon, apple delight, and death by donut. Hot and cold drinks available as well.

Langano Skies Ethiopian Restaurant

Ethiopian food with a spicy kick. Wash it down with a cool mango shake.

Lemon Heaven/ Freshly Squeezed

Your headquarters for fresh squeezed lemonade has moved this year and is now found in the main concession line. You'll still get the same variety of thirst quenching lemonade flavours!

Little O's

This is a festival classic. Whether you're an elephant ear or mini donut type, it can all be found at Little O's. This is also a great spot for breakfast as they serve up oatmeal, breakfast wraps and toast.

Lunchpail Catering

Another new-to-us vendor this year, Lunchpail Catering offers, grilled cheese strips with gooey cheddar and Monterey jack cheeses, as well as a variety of grilled meat sticks, soups and salads. Coconut limeade or Earl Grey iced tea, rounds out your meal.

Native Delights

Did somebody say bannock? Burgers, both beef and buffalo on bannock buns.

Numchok Wilai

Classic Thai dishes like pad thai, green curry — chicken and tofu and combo plates with veggie spring rolls.

Organic Box (West End)

Organic Box will be in Area 4's market place again this year, serving up fresh fruits and veggies to eat by the bushel.

Original Canadian Kettle Korn (Beer Garden)

Sweet and salty popcorn to curb any craving.

Padmanadi

Vegetarian Restaurant

Padmanadi serves up delicious vegan versions of ginger beef, chicken curry, and lemon prawns, as well as spring rolls and Indonesian salad Gado Gado. An Edmonton favourite (even meat eaters like it).

Perogy Place

Food that would make your Baba proud. Perogies, kubasa, and cabbage rolls plus a crunchy giant kosher dill pickle to top it off.

The Popcorn Place (Top of hill)

Your top of the hill headquarters for buttery movie theatre-style popcorn, sno cones and many other carnival treats.

Punky Potato

The festival spot for all things "pub food" — burgers, fries — plain or with fixins, sweet potato, or classic thick cut; hot dogs, appetizer platters and then for your sweet tooth — deep fried chocolate bars and oreos.

Royal Ice Cream Treats

Scooped ice cream and yogurt and every ice cream novelty you can imagine. Get your brain freeze here in the yummiest way possible.

Serben's Organic Farm (West End)

A downtown Farmer's market favourite, Serben serves up a variety of certified organic sausages on a bun. Area 4 marketplace.

Soner Donair and Kebab

Get your donair fix here — in standard form or as poutine or a salad. Dolma, spinach pie, shish kebabs round out your meal.

Summit Hut/Kick Ass Coffee

Coming down the hill to the main line this year, Summit Hut will take care of all your caffeine needs. Espresso, cappuccino, lattes and mochas... or even just a regular coffee. They have baked goods to go along with your drinks, a good morning stop.

Taste of Mongolia/

#YEG Green Onion Cakes

The classic green onion cake spot. It wouldn't be the Folk Fest without this on the menu. Also serving spring rolls, dumplings, ginger beef, lemon chicken and chow mein.

Whistler Wood Fired Pizza

New this year! Did somebody say pizza? Nine varieties of wood fired oven baked pizza in slice, personal pizza and large forms! A great thing to split up back on your tarp.

Yama2Go

The solar powered sushi truck is back. Sushi rolls, tuna tacos, beef tataki and Korean BBQ.

PHOTO BY - STEPHANIE HAMPIE



Sponsors

FUNDERS

This project is funded in part by:

The City of Edmonton
(Edmonton Arts Council)

The Government of Alberta
(Alberta Foundation for the Arts)
(Community Lottery Fund)

The Government of Canada
(Canada Arts Presentation Fund)
(Canada Summer Jobs)

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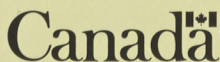
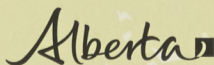
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Beothuck Trailers Ltd.

Brookwood Camps and Catering

CAT Rentals

Cervus Equipment

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Have you ever wondered how you could get more involved with the Edmonton Folk Music Festival? Do you want to contribute to the Folk Festival's success? Would you like to have your corporate name in front of 100,000 well-educated, increasingly affluent patrons of music? We have sponsorship options available that give you the opportunity to be a part of it all!

For more information on sponsorship email:
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Forever Folkfest:

PHOTO BY - CHRIS ARMSTRONG

Keeping the Lights on the Hill

You may have heard mention of the Forever Folkfest Endowment Fund.

Since it was established in 2005, the fund has grown from \$50,000 to almost \$2.5 million, and the festival receives an annual income of 3.5% and that is forever!

Administered through the Edmonton Community Foundation for investment, the endowment fund is a way for Folkfest management and board of directors work to ensure the financial stability of the festival's future.

We contribute to the fund in several ways but the money in these funds is not our money.

We have access to the interest generated by the funds, but we can never touch the principal.

Contributions to the fund are matched by federal programs, ensuring the fund keeps growing, and the annual dividend for Folkfest, which now is around \$88,000, is money we invest in our infrastructure, projects, stability, as well as something very dear to all of us, the "Go Wildly Forward" scholarship in the name of our late, illustrious Don Snider.

The endowment fund is a registered charity, which means your gift is eligible for a 50 per cent tax credit.

Contributions to the endowment fund flow through a variety of revenue streams:

- A Living Legacy ~ Donations are accepted at the Information Tent during the festival, or by mail the rest of the year. A tax receipt will be issued once your donation is processed.
- End of Life Gift ~ You can donate to the festival through your will or life insurance policy to mitigate taxes and acknowledge the effect the festival has had on your life.
- Candle Purchase ~ Every dollar from candle sales goes to the fund
- Seniors Ticket sales ~ All revenue from ticket sales to people ages 65 to 79 years go to the fund

If you are interested in adding to the Edmonton Folk Music Festival to your will or making a donation of your own, or perhaps in honour of a friend or loved one, stop by the info booth, have a look at our website EdmontonFolkFest.org, or give the office a call at 780-429-1899 for more information.

2016 Folkfest Raffle



EARLYBIRD DRAW

CALGARY FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL PACKAGE

Summer fun in Calgary! The winner will receive two 4-day passes to the 2017 Calgary Folk Music Festival. **Donated by Calgary Folk Music Festival.** The weekend will be complete with a luxurious 3-night stay at the nearby International Hotel Suites Calgary, breakfast for two, parking and wifi included. **Donated by the International Hotel Suites Calgary.**

Package Valued at \$1910.00

SILVER TARP PACKAGE

The winner and a guest will enjoy the 2017 Edmonton Folk Music Festival with **two full VIP backstage passes and second placement of their tarp** on the Main Stage hill! You'll also enjoy **\$500.00 at HMV Canada** to load up on festival music, or more!

Package Valued at \$1600.00

MAIN DRAW

SPECIAL DRAW

Golden Tarp Prize Package: The winner and a guest will enjoy **two full VIP backstage passes for the 2017 Edmonton Folk Music Festival** with the best seats at the festival – the Golden tarp winner receives first placement of their tarp at the Main Stage! This red carpet treatment includes **four night's Fairmont View Accommodation with valet parking at Fairmont Hotel Macdonald, and a Gourmet picnic basket for two** during the 2017 EFMF Festival weekend (Thursday through Sunday night). **Donated by Fairmont Hotel Macdonald.** You can prepare for your upcoming festival experience all year long with **15 pre-selected 2016 Edmonton Folk Music Festival performer CDs.** Package Valued at \$3184.65

1ST PRIZE

Travel Package: Pack your bags! The winner will receive two economy class, round-trip tickets from Edmonton International Airport to London-Gatwick via WestJet. **Donated by Edmonton International Airport.** To help you see the sights and preserve them for a lifetime, the winner of this package will also receive **a pair of Nikon Monarch 7 8x42 Binoculars and a Nikon Coolpix AW130 Waterproof Camera, courtesy of McBain Camera.** Package Valued at \$3539.90

2ND PRIZE

Martin Guitar: Martin HD-35 Nancy Wilson Signature Edition. This guitar features an Engelmann spruce top, East Indian rosewood on sides and three-piece back's wings, red "heart" bubinga center wedge, Pisces fish Yin Yang design of rare pink "Heart" abalone, mother of pearl and red composite, a polished black ebony headplate, winged heart Insignia inlaid in red composite and mother of pearl at the 12th fret, Abalone dot markers, and Nancy Wilson's signature in mother of pearl between the 19th and 20th frets, and more! Comes with Vintage-inspired Geib-style case. **Donated by Avenue Guitars. Valued at \$3950.00**

3RD PRIZE

Party Prize Package: The party begins with your very own **Mini beer fridge stocked with 12 dozen fresh brews, donated by Big Rock Brewery.** Fat Franks donates and provides the food and beverage with a catered **personal event/party for 50** at location of choice within greater Edmonton, inclusive of selected product line and beverages. Your party will be complete with music you have purchased with your **\$500 gift card from HMV Canada.**

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Main Stage



THE MUSIC

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		2:00 PM - 2:55 PM The Cat Empire	2:00 PM - 2:55 PM Calexico
6:00 PM - 11:00 PM Fatoumata Diawara The Barr Brothers Bobby Bazini Kaleo	9:00 PM - 12:00 AM Lisa Hannigan and Aaron Dessner Mary Chapin Carpenter Jason Isbell	7:00 PM - 12:00 AM The Tallest Man on Earth The Staves Passenger Mike Farris and the Roseland Rhythm Review	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM LP The Head and the Heart Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats Finale

Performers at a Glance

* Denotes Concert

AMADOU FALL TRIO

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 3
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 2
Sun Aug 07 5:05 PM..... Stage 7*

AMOS GARRETT AND THE FESTIVAL HOUSE BAND

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 1

AMY HELM AND THE HANDSOME STRANGERS

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 5
3:05 PM..... Stage 1
Sun Aug 07 12:30 PM..... Stage 3
4:20 PM..... Stage 1*

THE BARR BROTHERS

Thu Aug 04 7:10 PM... Main Stage*
Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 3
7:20 PM..... Stage 3

BLACK UMFOLOSI

Fri Aug 05 7:15 PM..... Stage 2
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 5
12:35 PM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 3*

BOBBY BAZINI

Thu Aug 04 8:30 PM... Main Stage*
Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 1
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 2

CALEXICO

Sun Aug 07 2:00 PM... Main Stage*
5:50 PM..... Stage 6

THE CAT EMPIRE

Sat Aug 06 2:00 PM... Main Stage*

CHLOE ALBERT

Sat Aug 06 12:05 PM..... Stage 7*
3:05 PM..... Stage 7
Sun Aug 07 6:05 PM..... Stage 5

COLIN LINDEN

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 1
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
4:35 PM..... Stage 1*

CURTIS HARDING

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 1
Sun Aug 07 5:45 PM..... Stage 1*

DABY TOURÉ

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 2*
7:15 PM..... Stage 2
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 5

DAR WILLIAMS

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 5
4:30 PM..... Stage 6*
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
6:05 PM..... Stage 5

DERVISH

Sat Aug 06 12:40 PM..... Stage 2*
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 5
12:35 PM..... Stage 6

DIGGING ROOTS

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 3
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 5
Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 2
4:30 PM..... Stage 2*

DREAMERS' CIRCUS

Sat Aug 06 4:35 PM..... Stage 3
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 5
4:05 PM..... Stage 7*

THE EAST POINTERS

Sat Aug 06 4:35 PM..... Stage 3
Sun Aug 07 12:05 PM..... Stage 5*

ELVIN BISHOP & CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 1
5:50 PM..... Stage 1*

ERIC BIBB & COREY HARRIS

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 1
7:25 PM..... Stage 1*
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
3:05 PM..... Stage 1

FATOUMATA DIAWARA

Thu Aug 04 6:00 PM... Main Stage*
Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 3

GORDIE MACKEEMAN & HIS RHYTHM BOYS

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 1
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 2
4:20 PM..... Stage 5
Sun Aug 07 1:05 PM..... Stage 5*

THE HEAD AND THE HEART

Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
8:20 PM... Main Stage*

JAH PRAYZAH & THE 3RD GENERATION BAND

Sun Aug 07 5:45 PM..... Stage 3*

JASON ISBELL

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 6
10:50 PM. Main Stage*

JIM BYRNES AND THE SOJOURNERS

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 2*
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
12:30 PM..... Stage 3

JOAN SHELLEY

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 7
3:05 PM..... Stage 2
5:05 PM..... Stage 5*

JOEL FAFARD

Fri Aug 05 7:15 PM..... Stage 2
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 7
Sun Aug 07 12:05 PM..... Stage 7*

JOHN WORT HANNAM AND THE BLUE COLLARS

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 6
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
1:05 PM..... Stage 7*

KAIL BAXLEY

Sat Aug 06 5:45 PM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
3:05 PM..... Stage 1*

KALEO

Thu Aug 04 9:45 PM... Main Stage*
Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 3

KRUGER BROTHERS

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 5
 4:20 PM..... Stage 5
 Sun Aug 07 12:35 PM..... Stage 6
 6:05 PM..... Stage 7*

LERA LYNN

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
 3:05 PM..... Stage 3
 Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 5*

**LINDA TILLERY AND
THE CULTURAL HERITAGE CHOIR**

Sat Aug 06 12:45 PM..... Stage 1*
 Sun Aug 07 12:30 PM..... Stage 3
 3:05 PM..... Stage 2

**LISA HANNIGAN AND
AARON DESSNER**

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 6
 8:30 PM... Main Stage*
 Sat Aug 06 5:45 PM..... Stage 6

LP

Sun Aug 07 7:00 PM... Main Stage*

THE MAE TRIO

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 6
 Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 7
 Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 5
 1:05 PM..... Stage 7*

MARTIN AND ELIZA CARTHY

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 5
 5:05 PM..... Stage 7*
 Sun Aug 07 12:35 PM..... Stage 6
 5:45 PM..... Stage 2

MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 6
 9:30 PM... Main Stage*

**MATT MOLLOY &
JOHN CARTY WITH ARTY MCGLYNN**

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 3
 5:50 PM..... Stage 5*
 Sun Aug 07 12:35 PM..... Stage 6

MATTHEW BYRNE

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 6
 Sat Aug 06 12:40 PM..... Stage 3
 6:05 PM..... Stage 7*

**MAURA O'CONNELL AND
KARAN CASEY**

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 5*
 Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 3
 3:05 PM..... Stage 3

**MIKE FARRIS &
THE ROSELAND RHYTHM REVUE**

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 3
 11:00 PM. Main Stage*
 Sun Aug 07 12:30 PM..... Stage 3

MOHSIN ZAMAN

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 7*
 Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 5

MURRAY PORTER

Sat Aug 06 12:40 PM..... Stage 3
 Sun Aug 07 12:05 PM..... Stage 1*
 6:05 PM..... Stage 5

**NATHANIEL RATELIFF &
THE NIGHT SWEATS**

Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
 9:40 PM... Main Stage*

PASSENGER

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
 9:35 PM... Main Stage*

PETER ASHER AND ALBERT LEE

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 1
 5:50 PM..... Stage 2*
 Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
 3:05 PM..... Stage 2

THE PINES

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 7
 5:45 PM..... Stage 6
 Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 2
 4:05 PM..... Stage 5*
 5:50 PM..... Stage 6

PHOTO BY - BRYAN COOPER



RIVER WHYLESS

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
1:05 PM..... Stage 2*
5:45 PM..... Stage 2

ROSE COUSINS

Fri Aug 05 6:00 PM..... Stage 6
Sat Aug 06 4:05 PM..... Stage 7*
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 7
3:05 PM..... Stage 6

SAM BEAM & JESCA HOOP

Sun Aug 07 4:30 PM..... Stage 6*
5:50 PM..... Stage 6

SAM PALLADIO

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 6
3:05 PM..... Stage 7
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 7

SAMANTHA MARTIN & DELTA SUGAR

Fri Aug 05 7:15 PM..... Stage 2
Sat Aug 06 5:50 PM..... Stage 3*
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 1

SARAH HARMER

Sat Aug 06 12:35 PM..... Stage 6
5:45 PM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 3*

SARAH MACDOUGALL

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 6
Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
Sun Aug 07 4:30 PM..... Stage 3*

SCHOOL OF SONG
(EVA FOOTE, JUSTINE VANDERGRIFT
& SYDNEY MAE)

Sat Aug 06 4:20 PM..... Stage 2*

THE STAVES

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
8:20 PM... Main Stage*
Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 6

STEEP CANYON RANGERS

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 2
3:05 PM..... Stage 5*
4:20 PM..... Stage 5
Sun Aug 07 5:45 PM..... Stage 2

THE STEPCREW

Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 3
4:35 PM..... Stage 3
Sun Aug 07 3:05 PM..... Stage 7*

T. NILE

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 7*
Sat Aug 06 11:00 AM..... Stage 6
3:05 PM..... Stage 7
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 2

THE TALLEST MAN ON EARTH

Sat Aug 06 3:05 PM..... Stage 6
7:00 PM... Main Stage*

TASMAN JUDE

Sun Aug 07 1:05 PM..... Stage 1*

TOM RUSSELL

Fri Aug 05 7:20 PM..... Stage 5*
Sat Aug 06 12:40 PM..... Stage 3
3:05 PM..... Stage 3
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 6

WILLY MASON

Sat Aug 06 12:40 PM..... Stage 3
Sun Aug 07 11:00 AM..... Stage 2
12:00 PM..... Stage 2*
5:50 PM..... Stage 6

Friday Sessions

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3
6:00	Lend Me Your Ears Eric Bibb and Corey Harris Gordie MacKeeman and his Rhythm Boys Colin Linden Bobby Bazini	Concert Daby Touré	World Spinning The Barr Brothers Fatoumata Diawara Amadou Fall Trio
7:00			
8:00	Concert Eric Bibb and Corey Harris "True Blues"	Songs of Hope Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar Joël Fafard Black Umfolosi Daby Touré	Northern Exposure The Barr Brothers Digging Roots Kaleo
9:00	MAIN STAGE LISA HANNIGAN AND AARON DESSNER		



PHOTO BY - BRYAN COOPER

STAGE 5	STAGE 6	STAGE 7	
Concert Maura O'Connell and Karan Casey	Desperados Waiting for a Train Rose Cousins Mary Chapin Carpenter Jason Isbell Lisa Hannigan	Concert Mohsin Zaman	6:00
			7:00
Concert Tom Russell	Looking Back in Anger Matthew Byrne The Mae Trio John Wort Hannam Sarah MacDougall	Concert T. Nile	8:00
MAIN STAGE LISA HANNIGAN AND AARON DESSNER			9:00

Saturday Sessions

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3
11:00	Stony Plain's 40th Anniversary <i>Host Holger Petersen</i> Colin Linden Amos Garrett and the Festival House Band Eric Bibb and Corey Harris Peter Asher and Albert Lee	That Old Time Feeling Gordie MacKeeman and his Rythm Boys Steep Canyon Rangers Amadou Fall Trio Bobby Bazini	Ceili Maura O'Connell and Karan Casey The StepCrew Matt Molloy and John Carty with Arty McGlynn
12:00			
1:00	Concert Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir	Concert Dervish	"Men of the Deep" Matthew Byrne Murray Porter Willy Mason Tom Russell
2:00	MAIN STAGE THE CAT EMPIRE		
3:00	Everything's Alright Blues Eric Bibb and Corey Harris Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite Curtis Harding Amy Helm	Concert Jim Byrnes and The Sojourners	Nashville Tom Russell Mike Farris Lera Lynn Maura O'Connell and Karan Casey
4:00			
5:00	Concert Colin Linden	Concert School of Song Eva Foote Justine Vandergrift Sydney Mae	Losing Traditions The East Pointers The StepCrew Dreamers' Circus
6:00	Concert Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite	Concert Peter Asher and Albert Lee	Concert Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar
7:00	MAIN STAGE THE TALLEST MAN ON EARTH		

Sunday Sessions

THE MUSIC

	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3
11:00	Hearing Voices Jim Byrnes Samantha Martin and Delta Sugar KaiL Baxley	Take Your Pick T. Nile Willy Mason The Pines	Concert Black Umfolosi
12:00	Concert Murray Porter	Concert Willy Mason	The Spirit Sings Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir Mike Farris and the Roseland Rhythm Revue The Sojourners Amy Helm
1:00	Concert Tasman Jude	Concert River Whyless	
2:00	MAIN STAGE CALEXICO		
3:00	Concert KaiL Baxley with Amos Garrett and the Festival House Band	folkways Alive! Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir Digging Roots Joan Shelley Peter Asher and Albert Lee	Concert Sarah Harmer
4:00			
5:00	Concert Amy Helm and the Handsome Strangers	Concert Digging Roots	Concert Sarah MacDougall
6:00	Concert Curtis Harding	String Beings Martin and Eliza Carthy Steep Canyon Rangers River Whyless	Concert Jah Prayzah and the 3rd Generation Band
7:00	MAIN STAGE LP		

STAGE 5	STAGE 6	STAGE 7	
Ancestors Dervish The Mae Trio Dreamers' Circus	Turning Points Tom Russell River Whyless Peter Asher and Albert Lee Dar Williams	Taking Stock Rose Cousins Joan Shelley Sam Palladio	11:00
Concert The East Pointers		Concert Joël Fafard	12:00
Concert Gordie MacKeeman and his Rhythm Boys	Master Class Matt Molloy and John Carty with Arty McGlynn Kruger Brothers Dervish Martin and Eliza Carthy	Concert The Mae Trio	1:00
MAIN STAGE CALEXICO			2:00
Concert Lera Lynn	Lessons Learned Rose Cousins The Head and the Heart Nathaniel Rateliff The Staves	Concert The StepCrew	3:00
Concert The Pines		Concert Dreamers' Circus	4:00
Concert Joan Shelley	Concert Sam Beam and Jesca Hoop	Concert Amadou Fall Trio	5:00
Building Bridges Dar Williams Chloe Albert Murray Porter	Sense of Place Calexio Sam Beam and Jesca Hoop Willy Mason The Pines	Concert Kruger Brothers	6:00
MAIN STAGE LP			7:00

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PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ

2016

PERFORMERS

EDMONTON **FOLK** FESTIVAL



PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ



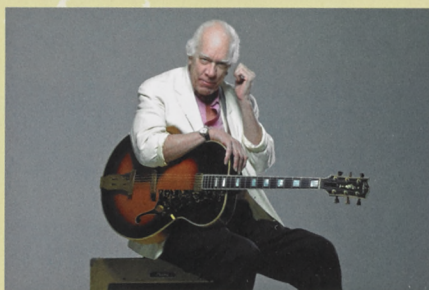
AMADOU FALL TRIO

Senegal/United States

Despite being born into a family of Senegalese musicians, **Amadou Fall**, as a 10 year old, was the one to discover the kora. It's a traditional instrument played throughout West Africa, a 21-string instrument made from half of a large calabash gourd covered with cow skin with a long hardwood neck and is best described as a harp-lute. Introduced to the kora during his visits to a nearby city of griots, the traditional historians and storytellers of West Africa, Amadou immediately fell in love with the instrument. The griots also introduced him to the traditional playing style, reminiscent of the flamenco guitar technique. "The kora called me," he recalls. Returning home, he built his own, and began the long process of teaching himself the instrument based on the little he had been taught.

Now with 20 years' experience playing the kora, Amadou has become a global ambassador of the tradition, and has toured extensively in West Africa, Europe and North America. Joined in his trio by childhood friends **Ibrahim Ba** (guitars and vocals) and **Abdoulaye Sow** (djembe), Amadou's performances are renowned for both their virtuosity and the unmistakable joy of the musicians. "My mission," Amadou says, "is to remind people to be happy." SH

amekoramusic.com



AMOS GARRETT AND THE FESTIVAL HOUSE BAND

Alberta, Ontario

Our festival is fortunate to again have some of Canada's best musicians backing up headliners and strutting their own stuff.

The perennial leader of the house band is none other than the great **Amos Garrett**. Amos is known as one of the most unique pickers to put his hands on an electric guitar. His extreme string-bending technique puts him in a category of his own. Amos' work on Maria Muldaur's "Midnight at the Oasis" has been feted by critics as one of the greatest guitar solos of all time. Over the years he has toured and recorded with a variety of artists, from Paul Butterfield to Ian and Sylvia.

With that resonant deep voice, Amos has also made a name as a band leader, performing gypsy jazz in the Cold Club and recording a tribute album to the R & B legend Percy Mayfield, which earned him a Juno nomination.

Born in Detroit and raised in Montreal, Amos is now a longtime resident of High River in southern Alberta, an area that has rewarded him with great fly fishing, but provided challenges during the flood of 2013.



Dave Babcock is the first-call saxophone player in Edmonton, and it's no wonder. Dave's versatility, whether playing his own brand of "cool jazz" or backing up such legends as Long John Baldry and Jay McShann, has enabled him to make a huge impact on the Alberta music scene.



Kit Johnson has been a mainstay of the Calgary music scene since 1999, when he moved west after decades of living in Toronto and playing bass with the likes of David Wilcox and Murray McLauchlan. He also has numerous composing and producing credits under his belt, including co-writing songs with Sarah Harmer and Alannah Myles.



Michelle Josef is one of Canada's top drummers and best-known transgender activists. She was a member of the legendary country band, Prairie Oyster, but has also done sessions with over 50 other performers, from Long John Baldry to Sharon, Lois and Bram.



Rusty Reed evokes the spirit of Little Walter when he blows on the blues harmonica. A winner of two Juno awards, Rusty also is living proof of the versatility of the harmonica, playing everything from classical to jazz. MS

melmusic.com/amos_garrett

kitjohnson.ca

michellejosef.com

daveabcock.com



AMY HELM AND THE HANDSOME STRANGERS

United States

Although her debut solo recording is only a year old, the deeply personal *Didn't It Rain*, **Amy Helm** has been making music for almost her entire life. And given her rich musical pedigree — Amy is the daughter of The Band's Levon Helm and singer/songwriter Libby Titus, and step-daughter of Steely Dan's Donald Fagen — it's hard to imagine her taking any other path. She started playing Manhattan bar gigs in her early teens, and continued through high school and college. Increasingly drawn to the same blues and gospel music that inspired her father, she was, as she puts it, "scooped up" by Levon to tour with his blues band in her early twenties.

In 2002 she helped found New York-based quintet Ollabelle, whose three albums fusing bluegrass and gospel were met with wide critical acclaim. In 2004, the year Amy and Ollabelle released their eponymous debut, she also started organizing (and frequently performing at) the famous monthly "Midnight Ramble" concerts with her father in his restored barn-turned-recording studio. In 2007 she co-produced and performed on her father's Grammy-award-winning comeback album *Dirt Farmer*, and spent the last half of the decade splitting her time between touring with her band and playing in her father's outfit. Amy had already begun work on her first solo project when her father died in 2012, but after finding her footing fronting a new band, the Handsome Strangers (with guitarist **Daniel Littleton**, drummer **David Berger**, and **Alan Hampton** on bass), she opted to delay and re-record most of the album.

A spellbinding songwriter with an expressive and powerful voice and a talented multi-instrumentalist with decades of experience on the road, Amy isn't living in her father's shadow so much as carrying the family torch high. SH

amyhelm.com



THE BARR BROTHERS

Québec

Musical success is hardly a straightforward or predictable beast. But the backstory of **The Barr Brothers** is particularly full of unexpected twists and turns — involving the smooth-singing set of brothers finding love, a new country, and a new sound.

Andrew and Brad Barr were deeply ensconced in the Boston music scene, playing in a band called The Slip. About five years ago, during a tour that took them to Montreal, a fire broke out in the club where they were performing. Out on the street, in the aftermath of the blaze, Andrew gallantly offered his coat to a local woman shivering in the cold night air. That gesture led to romance, and Andrew relocated to Montreal to be with her. Brad soon followed, moving north to continue making music with his brother.

The second twist in the road took place through drywall. Brad was living in an apartment next to harpist **Sarah Pagé**, who was playing with the late Lhasa de Sela as well as various orchestras, and he was enchanted by what he heard through the wall. They became friends, and Sarah started playing with the two brothers.

They still love to perform in their Montreal home, where they have played for 100,000 people at an outdoor concert during that city's famous jazz festival. As the Montreal Gazette described one of their shows, their performance "brought a driving hook, guitar heft, and invigorating sense of purpose." MS

thebarrbrothers.com



BLACK UMFOLOSI

Zimbabwe

Black Umfolosi were formed in 1982 by school friends in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, who named themselves after the Umfolozi Omnyama River in South Africa. Over three decades later, they are still together, performing and recording their traditional *imbube* (township cappella) music, and hypnotizing audiences with their gumboot and Zulu dance.

As children, Black Umfolosi's first show was a series of traditional songs performed at their school in support of their football team. This led to performances at local festivals and trade fairs, which in turn led to international performances. Writing music during the political upheaval and stresses of the eighties in Zimbabwe gave Black Umfolosi a unique opportunity to contribute to the history of the country through their song. Their song, "Unity," is still being aired today.

Integrating clicking, clapping, and stomping into their intricate rhythms, Black Umfolosi's signature sound is both uplifting and meditative. The songs themselves focus themes relevant both to African and international audiences: global warming, respect for oneself and others, human rights, and AIDS. The band describe their style of music as a "vocal newspaper," and take their music to parts of Africa where there are no radios or televisions, in order to promote healthy living and education. JS

blackumfolosimusic.com

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BOBBY BAZINI

Québec

Born **Bobby Bazinet** in Mont-Laurier, Quebec, this twenty-seven year old artist made something of a splash in 2010 with his first album, *Better in Time*. Debuting at number four on the Canadian Albums Chart, the album quickly went platinum. His smooth voice and his dreamy rhythms are a throwback to the love songs of 1960s Motown. But his unique French-Canadian take on these songs, with a folksy spin, garnered him nominations at the 2011 Juno Awards for New Artist of the Year and Pop Album of the Year. The first single off the record, "I Wonder," spent eight weeks at the top of the charts in Quebec.

With a such a strong debut, one might wonder, what's next? Bobby deftly evaded the sophomore slump with his second album, *Where I Belong*, in 2014. It quickly became the best selling Canadian album of the year. On the subsequent tour for the album, Bobby played to sold out audiences, and over 60,000 people came out to watch his free show at the 2014 Montreal Jazz Festival. Recorded at the famed Village Recorder in Los Angeles — home to prestigious artists such as Johnny Cash, Bob Dylan, and Marvin Gaye — the album was produced by iconic producer, Larry Klein.

Flash forward a few years, after a successful spring tour through Europe earlier this year, Bobby is spending his days recording his anticipated third album in London, working with fellow musicians Brendan Benson of The Raconteurs, Jake Gosling (producer and writer with Ed Sheeran), and Martin Terefe (producer with Jason Mraz and James Blunt). Edmonton audiences are lucky to be some of the first fans to hear his new material when he takes the Folk Festival stage this August. EmR

bobbybazini.com



CALEXICO

United States

Named after a border town in California, **Calexico's** music is of the finest Tex-Mex—flavoured indie-rock. Hailing from Tucson, Arizona, the band's founding members, **John Convertino** and **Joey Burns**, have been making music together for 20 years. Formed in 1996, they have nine studio albums to their credit, seven live albums, and multiple soundtracks and collaborations. Their ninth, and most current release, *Edge of the Sun*, represents their collaborative efforts with many notable names from the music world, such as Neko Case and Ben Bridwell of Band of Horses.

"As we began working on it, we started inviting people and it was a natural thing. We've always welcomed guests — it's in our DNA," says Burns. Written in Coyoacán, a neighbourhood in Mexico City which artistic luminaries from Frida Kahlo to Gabriella Garcia Marquez have called home, the band found inspiration in this deeply rooted history of community, arts, and music. According to keyboardist **Sergio Mendoza**, "The surroundings of Coyoacán really helped bring life to those ideas that were waiting for a special time and place to come out." The first single off the album, "Falling from the Sky," showcases the band's upbeat rhythms, catchy melodies, and utterly get-up-and-dance trumpet licks.

Known for their dynamic and electrifying live shows, Calexico boasts a loyal fan following. Coming off a spring tour in Europe, and a summer tour in South America, Calexico will be touring North America this summer and we are excited to welcome them back to the EFMF stage. EmR

casadecalexico.com



THE CAT EMPIRE

Australia

Long one of Melbourne's top bands, **The Cat Empire** are now extending their dominion worldwide to sold-out audiences in the UK and Canada. The band, with its infectious and danceable ska beats, inflected with jazz grooves, began as a trio in 1999. Since then they have become known far and wide as one of the world's greatest party bands. Today's cats are keyboardist **Oliver McGill**, double bassist **Ryan Monro**, percussionist **Felix Riebl**, trumpet player **Harry James Angus**, drummer **Will Hull-Brown**, and DJ **Jamshid Khadiwala**. Their colourful, genre-bending music, shipped across the world in traveller's backpacks seems, like their namesake: at home almost anywhere and yet an illusive stranger, difficult to describe and impossible to categorize.

The Cat Empire's reputation is built upon a chaotic and fiercely uplifting live show that, last year alone, over half a million people bought tickets to see. The band's sixth album, *Rising With The Sun*, debuted at #1 in Australia, at top 10 in seven countries, and top 20 in 16 countries across six different continents on iTunes.

One of the reasons for this overwhelming success is something folk festival audiences will understand. In its energy and vibrancy, The Cat Empire's variety of ska simply evokes summer. It's music that reminds us of summer's sweetness and freedom, of shirking responsibility, running from the dark side, and maybe even falling in love. It's also superlative music to dance to, ideally in the early August sunshine. EVR

thecatempire.com



CHLOE ALBERT

Alberta

Chloe Albert grew up in Edmonton as part of an intensely musical household. Unsurprisingly, she ended up a multi-instrumentalist, playing piano from the age of five and taking up guitar and percussion from her teens. She graduated from the music program at Grant MacEwan College and followed the "traditional" path of a professional musician by paying the bills with office and waitressing jobs while wading through grant applications.

The slog paid off. In 2008, her first CD, *Dedicated State*, won the 2008 Canadian Folk Music Award for Emerging Artist. Chloe received serious support from the CBC and CKUA networks along with the admiration of Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy. As well as solo work, she played in three bands covering a broad spectrum of musical styles. She also played rhythm on *The Engadine Sessions: Come To The Mountain*, a collaboration between Juno nominee Suzie Vinnick, Cara Luft, Kat Danser, Cori Brewster, and Karla Anderson.

Her second album, *Dream Catcher*, was released in 2013. The birth of her son in January 2015 has added a new dimension to her life. CKUA's Lionel Rault praised her as "an insightful songwriter and soulful vocalist, she engages her audiences with rare warmth and honesty." Add her name to the long list of wonderful Canadian singer-songwriters. MP

chloealbert.com



COLIN LINDEN

Ontario

Few musicians have as deep a connection with today's roots music as **Colin Linden**. As a singer, songwriter, producer and backup musician, he has performed and recorded with the best — Emmylou Harris, Bruce Cockburn, Leon Redbone, Robert Plant, Bob Dylan, Lucinda Williams, to name a few.

He has played the White House, the Ryman in Nashville, has been involved with two Coen Brothers movies including *O Brother Where Art Thou*, has been nominated for Junos and Grammy awards and is musical director on the TV show *Nashville*. And there was, of course, his longtime involvement with the great late Willie P. Bennett, initially as his guitarist and for the past 20 years as a member of Blackie and the Rodeo Kings, which started out as a tribute band to Willie P.

Colin's connection with roots music goes way back to his childhood. At 11, he went to see the legendary Howling Wolf at Toronto's Colonial Tavern, and summoned up enough courage to go meet the great bluesman before his performance. The Wolf had a long chat with the youngster, and told him: "I'm not going to be around much longer — you're going to have to carry this on," Colin recalled in an interview with CPAC.

Colin took the words of his mentor seriously, delving deeply into the works of the great blues artists like Son House, Big Bill Broonzy and Robert Johnson. While he has branched into many genres, the country blues still has a big influence on his playing, which is highlighted by searing slide guitar work. MS

colinlinden.com



CURTIS HARDING

United States

Curtis Harding's music is an unforgettable blend of southern soul music and the spirit of rock 'n' roll. Think Otis Redding and Curtis Mayfield sung over powerful electric guitar riffs. It sometimes gets downright funky, but it's much more than neo-soul. Instead, he takes elements of everything he has learned, creating what he calls "slop 'n' soul."

Currently a resident of Atlanta, Georgia, Curtis grew up in Michigan, singing gospel in his mother's choir. He immersed himself in many genres, including hip hop, working as a backup singer for rap superstar Cee Lo Green and honing his guitar skills with the quirky band Night Sun.

His debut album, *Soul Power*, attracted heaps of praise. In the *Manchester Guardian*: "Genre purists will appreciate the craftsmanship, and Harding is an undeniably versatile vocal talent, as you'd expect from someone schooled firstly in gospel choirs and then as a backing singer for Cee Lo Green." Allmusic.com says: "This music fuses the sounds of the '60s and early '70s while injecting them with an edgy energy that's solidly contemporary. Harding's phrasing is warm, flexible, and expressive." And *Rolling Stone* describes his work as "Superfly nuggets from soul and rock's late-'70s crossover heyday, rediscovered by the son of a gospel singer."

These sorts of accolades don't phase Curtis. For him, it's far simpler. "I love soul music," he says. "I love all music, but I could always sing. When I was doing rap, I would add elements of what I'm doing now. I'm just going back to my roots, and it's something I can do forever. I can't necessarily be an 80-year-old rapper, but I can definitely sing soul songs and sing music for as long as I'm alive." MS

curtisharding.com



DABY TOURÉ

Mauritania/France

In an era when displacement and migration are defining themes, **Daby** is an empathetic and uplifting voice of experience. Born in Mauritania, he spent much of his childhood moving between cities and villages in Mauritania and Senegal. Now a long-time resident of Paris, he is a musical and linguistic polyglot with a truly multicultural perspective, and songs that brim with a contagious positivity.

Daby began playing music at a young age, despite the disapproval of his father, who was a doctor and amateur musician unconvinced music was a suitable profession for his son. So Daby played guitar in secret, and revelled in the exotic American pop music he heard through the radio on pirated cassettes. Ironically, it was his father's decision to join his brothers' successful band, Toure Kunda, and take the family to Europe. There, Daby quickly began to build a career for himself, first in a duo with his cousin, and then solo, releasing his debut album, *Diam*, on Real World Records in 2004.

Daby has since released four more albums — his latest, *Amonafi*, was praised by *The Guardian* as “impossible to dislike” — including a collaboration with American bluesman Skip McDonald, and has performed all over the world, alongside the likes of Rihanna, Bob Geldof, and Peter Gabriel. Daby is still on the musical and cultural adventure he began as a child. As he himself puts it, “All the traditional music I picked up when I was young is still in me and that doesn't change. But in my music I am still searching, and mixing, and trying things, and that's what I am doing now.” DW

cumbancha.com/dabytoure



DAR WILLIAMS

United States

Over the course of an incredible musical career that's well into its third decade, American folk icon **Dar Williams** has never shied away from connecting the deeply personal with the more broadly political. It's reflected best, of course, in the depth and variety of the dozen-plus albums she's released since her acclaimed and aptly-named 1993 debut, *The Honesty Room*. As *The New York Times* said of her, “wisdom flows through her songs in delirious, wordy rushes of truth.”

With themes ranging from mythology to the Occupy movement, her catalogue is poetic, honest, and full of self-reflection, and has rightly earned her the reputation, in the words of *The New Yorker*, of “one of America's very best singer-songwriters.” While she's best known for her music, Dar's involvement in her community goes much deeper: she's taught a course called “Music Movements in a Capitalist Democracy,” authored a book on how to make towns and cities more prosperous based on the lessons she's learned from two decades of touring, offers frequent songwriting workshops, and has lent her talent to numerous progressive causes, including the prisoners' rights group Bread and Roses, and Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Her latest offering, 2015's *Emerald*, which was recorded with a score of remarkable guest musicians in studios in a half-dozen cities across the US is a reflection of the deep bonds of respect she shares with the musical community. She's toured with Richard Thompson and Bruce Cockburn, penned songs for Joan Baez, and played with Pete Seeger, Ani DiFranco, and the Indigo Girls. “I'm a believer,” says Dar, “in what can happen when we make music together.” SH

darwilliams.com



DERVISH

Ireland

Dervish is one of the most respected groups in world and roots music on the planet. This long-lived and successful Sligo-born band, considers a 'dervish' as any group of spiritual people who become enraptured by music. Sounds like the thousands of EFMF fans who annually gather on the Hill in August!

The band is **Brian McDonagh** on mandola and mandolin, **Liam Kelly** on flute and whistle, **Tom Morrow** on fiddle and viola, **Shane Mitchell** on accordion, **Cathy Jordan** on vocals, bodhran, and bones, and **Michael Holmes** on bouzouki.

Dervish has been performing for 27 years. Their musical genius and innovative approach will ensure they will always deliver the joy, excitement, and fun that is traditional Irish music. Expect a myriad of tones and moods ranging from high-energy tunes played with fluidity and intuitiveness, to beautifully measured songs, from charming lyrics of life and love, to inspiring melodies that lift audiences from their seats.

Their colourful career has taken them to every corner of the globe. They have shared centre stage with James Brown, The Buena Vista Social Club, Oasis, Sting, REM, Beck, and many more. They have produced a series of 14 hour-long radio shows for National Public Radio. Their fourth album, *Live in Palma*, preserves a scintillating performance in Palma de Mallorca's Teatro Principal in April 1997. Critics hailed it as one of the best live traditional recordings of our time. In 2006 the Taoiseach of Ireland, Bertie Ahern, invited Dervish to accompany the Irish government delegation's largest-ever trade mission to China, confirming the band is a national jewel of Ireland. From the Great Wall of China, to packed auditoriums in the Holy Land, to the great music festival, Rock in Rio, before an estimated audience of 240,000, Dervish have spread their brand of enrapturement a long way. EvR

dervish.ie



DIGGING ROOTS

Ontario

Digging Roots may be the performing name for the husband and wife duo of **Raven Kanetakta** and **ShoShona Kish**, but it's also an apt description of their music. While embracing their aboriginal roots — Raven hails from Winneway, Quebec, an Anishinaabe community, and ShoShona from Ontario's Batchewana First Nation — they dig through a wide range of contemporary roots genres, from swampy blues to hip hop.

The result is deliciously catchy songs (the duo is backed by a full rhythm section and it's intoxicating stuff) that encompasses their experience in the bush, on the "rez," and on the road. They sing of the joys of spring, the desolation of the Highway of Tears where many aboriginal women have been murdered, and about influences such as Raven's grandfather who spent his entire life in the wilderness. Add the odd sassy love song, and you have a musical melange that's earning them fans all over the world.

The two met over a decade ago when they were both music students, waiting to audition for a music festival. The magic soon led to gigs, a band and eventually to a family. Their synergy has earned them a Juno nomination, a Canadian Aboriginal Music Award and a Maple Blues Award, among others.

Their take on contemporary Aboriginal music goes much further than combining resonator guitar and singing in Anishinabemowin. For Raven and ShoShona, the process of composition itself is an opportunity to explore cultural tradition. "In the last five years or so, we've also been taking pictures of horizon lines and panoramic pictures," including mountain landscapes and skylines, Raven told the *Barrie Examiner*. "Traditionally, back where we come from, that's how people used to write songs. They'd base the melody off the rise and fall."

Those skies are also, as the old cliché goes, the limit for the music of Digging Roots. MS

diggingrootsmusic.com



DREAMERS' CIRCUS

Denmark

The story of how **Dreamers' Circus** formed is a musician's fairy tale. Violinist **Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen** and cittern player **Ale Carr** were jamming in a Copenhagen pub one night during a folk festival in 2009. There were other musicians around, but none of them could catch onto what the two friends were doing. Then **Nikolaj Busk** walked in, sat down at the piano and, just like that, the three played together until four in the morning. Dreamers' Circus was born.

The three come from remarkably different musical backgrounds. Like Rune, Nikolaj Busk has a grounding in classical music, but with influences equally rooted in the worlds of jazz and electronica. Ale comes from a family of Swedish traditional musicians, and performed with his parents as a child in a very traditional style — and even in traditional costume. His desire to blow some contemporary fire into the music led him to compose his own tunes. This anarchic sensibility forms the foundation of the trio's undeniable chemistry.

The exquisitely symbiotic coming together of such a diverse trio of musicians was bound to lead to genre-crossing. They've collaborated with the Copenhagen Philharmonic and the Danish String Quartet. They also work regularly with rock musician and critic Kristian Leth, and have performed with Danish rapper Shaka Loveless; American folk darlings Aoife O'Donovan, Sarah Jarosz and Sarah Watkins; and Indian bansuri master Rishab Prasanna.

The trio have kept up an inspired pace, producing a series of concerts with the Copenhagen Philharmonic in 2011, releasing their debut album, *A Little Symphony*, in 2013, for which they won several Danish Folk Music Awards. Their second album, *Second Movement*, came out in 2015. DW

dreamerscircus.com



THE EAST POINTERS

Prince Edward Island

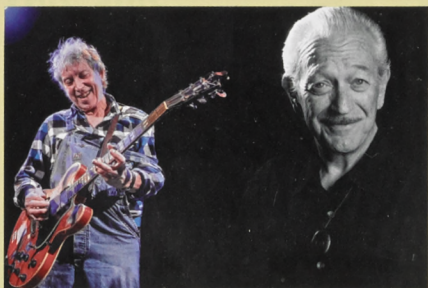
Hailing from Charlottetown, PEI, **The East Pointers** grew up totally absorbed in the traditional celtic and folk music of the area. Cousins **Tim Chaisson** (fiddle) and **Koady Chaisson** (banjo), along with friend **Jake Charron** (guitar), took on the jigs, stomps, and reels of their community in hopes of "introducing a whole new generation of listeners" to traditional music. Featuring the banjo, guitar, fiddle, stompbox, and tambourine, their live shows have been called an "adrenalized, roof-rattling, performance monster." Crowds dance and clap along as Koady keeps another tradition alive: step dancing as he plays.

Their debut full-length album of original songs, *Secret Victory*, was released in 2015. Written in Australia, and recorded in Hamilton, Ontario, the album was a self-produced labour of love. At the Music PEI Awards, they won the New Artist of the Year and Roots Traditional Recording of the Year awards. They were also nominated at the East Coast Music Awards for Traditional Instrumental Recording of the Year.

For these three artists, music is simply a way of life. A seventh-generation musician, Tim remembers how "I was playing fiddle before I realized I was playing fiddle!" Their hope is to carry on their beloved traditions to a new generation. EmR

eastpointers.ca





ELVIN BISHOP AND CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE

United States

Both schooled in the rough and tumble clubs of Chicago, **Elvin Bishop** and **Charlie Musselwhite**, combined, have a century of playing electric blues. Quite simply, the genre wouldn't be the same without either of them.

In the 1960s they both followed the road to Chicago. Separately they ventured to the south side, night after night, to learn from the original masters of electric blues, including Muddy Waters, Junior Wells, Little Walter, Howlin' Wolf and many more. Then they set off to make their own names for themselves, independently winning Grammy awards for their work.

Elvin came from Oklahoma to attend the University of Chicago, where he was a scholarship student in physics. But soon he spent more time studying the blues, and became a full time musician after meeting harmonica wizard Paul Butterfield. Elvin and Red Dog were featured in performances and recordings of artists including The Allman Brothers, John Lee Hooker and The Grateful Dead. Elvin came close to topping the pop charts with his song, "Fooled Around and Fell in Love."

Charlie came from Tennessee, where he dug ditches and ran moonshine in an old Lincoln. In Chicago, he drove an exterminator's truck and hung out at a record store and blues bars. At the time, he started a lifelong friendship with John Lee Hooker. With his trademark growl and powerhouse harmonica style, Charlie has also performed with numerous artists, including Ben Harper, Tom Waits and Hot Tuna.

The two paths had to cross, eventually. Elvin and Charlie have toured together, offering their master class in blues music to audiences since 2015. They will be joined by guitarist Bob Welsh. MS

charliemusselwhite.com
elvinbishopmusic.com



ERIC BIBB AND COREY HARRIS

United States

Edmonton Folkfest goers are in for a real treat this year when **Eric Bibb** and **Corey Harris**, two of the most vivid voices in modern Delta blues, come together on stage to present the celebrated project "True Blues," which chronicles the living culture of the blues through music and storytelling.

With buttery smooth vocals and an engaging earthy style, accomplished finger-style guitarist Eric Bibb has been around the world, absorbing musical influences and carving out a niche for himself in the acoustics blues scene. With a career spanning five decades and 36 albums, Eric is one of the leading bluesmen of his generation.

Since his breakthrough album *Spirit and the Blues* (1994), Eric's signature sound is a melding of soulful blues with rootsy Americana. His more recent offerings include the meditative and inspirational *Jericho Road* (2013) and *Blues People* (2014), a collection of originals and covers that focus on African American history, from slavery to emancipation and from sharecropping to the Civil Rights movement.

From humble beginnings as a street singer in New Orleans, Corey Harris has become one of the leading innovators of traditional blues music.

Corey's debut, *Between Midnight and Day* (1995), a one-man, one-guitar affair that illustrated his mastery of numerous variations on the Delta blues style, won rave reviews. Since then, Corey has recorded a dozen albums that range from old songs of the blues tradition, to creating an original vision of the blues by adding influences from reggae, soul, rock, and West African music. RK

ericbibb.com
corey-harris.com



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Friday, September 23 &
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Thursday, September 29

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Friday, September 30

**MOHAMED FAHMY:
MEDIA IN THE AGE
OF TERROR**

Saturday, October 1

**ANDREA HOUSE
presents HUGO,
THE SCAREDY-CAT
CATERPILLAR**

Tuesday, October 4

ANDREA HOUSE

Tuesday, October 4

**FRED EAGLESMITH
TRAVELLING SHOW**

Thursday, October 6 &
Friday, October 7

TERRA LIGHTFOOT

Saturday, October 15

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Sunday, October 30

**ANNE OF GREEN GABLES:
THE SEQUEL**

Sunday, November 6

FORTUNATE ONES

Friday, November 4

QUARTANGO:

BODY AND SOUL

Saturday, November 5

AOIFE O'DONOVAN

Wednesday, November 9

**JAYME STONE'S
LOMAX PROJECT**

Saturday, November 12

**DAVID MYLES:
IT'S CHRISTMAS**

Tuesday, December 6

**MERMAID THEATRE OF
NOVA SCOTIA presents
GOODNIGHT MOON &
THE RUNAWAY BUNNY**

Sunday, December 11

THE McDADES

Friday, December 16 &
Saturday, December 17

AWAY FROM HER

Sunday, January 15

**BARRY ALLEN &
THE NEW REBELS**

Saturday, January 21

SINGING WITH SYLVIA

Wednesday, January 25

**MARCO CLAVERIA
PROJECT**

Friday, January 27

NEW NORTH COLLECTIVE

Saturday, January 28

**MARGARET TRUDEAU:
CHANGING MY MIND**

Friday, February 3

**LISA BROKOP: THE
PATSY CLINE PROJECT**

Friday, February 10

THE BILLS

Saturday, February 11

**AXIS THEATRE presents
HAMELIN: A NEW FABLE**

Sunday, February 12

**MEASHA
BRUEGGERGOSMAN:
THE SONGS OF FREEDOM**

Friday, February 17

**THE HARPOONIST &
THE AXE MURDERER**

Saturday, February 18

**CANADA'S BALLET
JÖRGEN: SWAN LAKE**

Friday, February 24

**BACH TOTS presents
ONCE UPON A SEASON**

Wednesday, March 15

ROSE COUSINS

Friday, March 17

NIYAZ feat. AZIM ALI

Saturday, March 18

MEN WITH BROOMS

Sunday, March 19

DELHI 2 DUBLIN

Friday, March 31

MAZ

Saturday, April 1

FUBAR & FUBAR 2

Sunday, April 2

**THE SMALL GLORIES &
JOHN WORT HANNAM**

Thursday, April 20

THE JIVIN' BELLES

Tuesday, June 27

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FATOUMATA DIAWARA

Mali/France

Born in the Ivory Coast and raised in southern Mali, Paris-based singer-songwriter **Fatoumata (Fatou) Diawara** started her performing arts career as a dancer and actor in film and musical theatre, before taking up the guitar and beginning to write her own songs. Finding inspiration from her country's musical traditions, Fatou seamlessly blends the indigenous rhythms of her native Wassoulou, with modern inflections of jazz, pop, funk, and folk-rock. This idiosyncratic combination is forged on the back of her sensuous smoky voice, understated melodies, intricate yet fluid guitar playing, and intimate lyrics that range in theme from politics to empowerment to love.

Fatou first completed an album worth of songs, arranged all the tracks, as well as playing guitar, percussion, bass and singing lead and vocal harmonies. This dedication led to a record deal with World Circuit, who released her EP *Kanou* in Europe in the spring of 2011, followed by her self-titled album *Fatou* that fall. Both recordings were subsequently released in the U.S. by Nonesuch Records. Along the way, she found time to hone her performing skills by working with fellow Malian singer and mentor Oumou Sangaré, and on Herbie Hancock's Grammy-winning *Imagine Project*, among others.

In recent years, Fatou has toured the world extensively. She's also earned acclaim as an actor, starring in multiple feature films, such as the Academy-award nominated *Timbuktu*. Fatou has also collaborated with Cuban jazz pianist Roberto Fonseca with whom she recorded the live album, *At-Home-Live in Marciac* in 2014.

With Fatou's many accomplishments it should come as no surprise that she was recognized in *TIME Magazine's* list of the best in world music and praised by U.K.'s *Telegraph* as "one of the most beguiling talents to hit the world music scene in some time." RK

fatoumatadiawara.fr



GORDIE MACKEEHAN AND HIS RHYTHM BOYS

Prince Edward Island

"High-energy, electrifying entertainment," "exhilarating" and "jaw-dropping" — just some of the ways critics describe the live performances of **Gordie MacKeehan and His Rhythm Boys**. Hailing from Prince Edward Island, the band, made up of **Gordie, Peter Cann, Thomas Webb**, and **Jason Burbine**, get audiences on their feet through a masterful combination of fiddle, guitar, banjo, bass, steel guitar, and percussion.

The tight instrumentation of the Boys, alongside Gordie's sharp fiddle and fancy footwork, have wowed audiences around the world. Famous for his "crazy legs," MacKeehan draws live audiences to their shows to see him dance while he fiddles. His lightning-fast, teasing melodies set the pace for his tap dancing — which he sometimes achieves while playing his fiddle behind his back!

The group has three albums under their belt, each of which brings joy and youthfulness to traditional music. Their most recent, *Laugh, Dance, & Sing*, was released in 2015. Featuring both original and traditional songs, it highlights their signature style: a traditional bluegrass and old-time roots revival. Having toured around the UK, Malaysia, and Australia, they have performed at such festivals as Glastonbury, Celtic Connections, WOMAD, and The Woodford Folk Festival. Their 2014 album, *Pickin' n Click'n*, won the Roots Traditional Group Recording at the East Coast Music Awards, and the Roots Traditional Recording of the Year at the Music PEI Awards. The group also won the Galaxie Supernova Award for Best Live Group at the Ottawa Folk Festival in 2012. The EFMF is excited to welcome them to our stage. EmR

gordiemackeehan.com



THE HEAD AND THE HEART

United States

The Head and the Heart came together in the summer of 2009 when **Josiah Johnson** and **Jonathan Russell** played guitar and sang at their local pub. “The head and the heart” describe, according to Johnson, an archetypal artistic struggle: “Your head is telling you to be stable and find a good job, but you know in your heart that this is what you’re supposed to do, even if it’s crazy.”

In those early days, the crazy dominated. The band was primarily busking and getting acquainted with each other, as they were adding musicians, learning how to stomp their feet and sing in harmony. In other words, putting their hearts into it and keeping their heads at bay. This unbridled energy is abundant in their earliest material, which they honed in local performances before capturing it on their debut album.

Then, something they didn’t expect happened: they found success. Their first album, hand-burned and hand-packaged in denim bags, started to sell out at shows. Seattle’s Sub Pop records signed them in 2010, remastered their CD, and sent them on extensive tours through 2010 and 2011 in both the United States and Europe. The tour was impressive: they went from playing open mic nights to selling out headlining shows in prestigious venues.

Today, the band is **Jonathan Russell** (vocals, guitar, percussion), **Charity Rose Thielen** (violin, banjo, vocals), **Chris Zasche** (bass), **Kenny Hensley** (piano), and **Tyler Williams** (drums). (Frontman **Josiah Johnson** is on temporary hiatus from performing.) As they hit the stage this summer, the band is living proof of what happens when you let the head and the heart unite. EvR

theheadandtheheart.com



JAH PRAYZAH & THE THIRD GENERATION BAND

Zimbabwe

Jah Prayzah (Mukudzeyi Mukombe) is a Zimbabwean musician who fuses traditional mbira, or thumb piano, music with reggae. It’s a sound unlike any other you’ll hear at the folk festival this year.

As a child, however, Jah first fell in love with singing. “My musical skills were honed at school and at church,” he recalls. As a teenager he discovered the mbira, a traditional Shona instrument with 22 to 28 metal keys on a hardwood soundboard with a calabash resonator. singing, writing, and hunting, swimming in the local rivers. He read many novels from the Shona, one of the Bantu tribes in Zimbabwe, which were a strong influence on his own writing. After secondary school, he moved to Harare’s lively music scene, where he met other musicians and began to record contemporary music and Afro jazz.

His 2007 album, *Rudo Nerunyararo*, had a hit song, “Zororo.” It was followed by *Sungano Yerudo*, which caught the eye of one of Zimbabwe’s biggest music promoters. *Ngwarira Kuparara* from 2012 was the breakaway album he needed to become a household name in the country. Two more albums followed. And then came his 2015 release, *Jerusarema*, which took the Zimbabwean music industry by storm. *Jerusarema* is a dance practiced in Zimbabwe. It is listed and protected by UNESCO under the Third Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Jah’s album of the same name explores traditional Shona stories such as that of an ordinary boy seeking the king’s audience so he can express his love for the princess through, ironically, playing the mbira.

Jah has to date won numerous awards and has performed in sold out venues in the United Kingdom, USA, Canada, China, Australia, and South Africa. He has collaborated with the great Oliver Mtukudzi. EvR



JASON ISBELL

United States

A native of Green Hill, Alabama, **Jason Isbell** is a proud product of Appalachian musical traditions. While his professional career started at Fame Studios in nearby Muscle Shoals, where he worked as a songwriter, and as a member of alternative country outfit the Drive-by Truckers, he was taught to play music at a young age. His family was very musical: he started on the mandolin at six and began to participate in weekly family jams shortly after. This was a culture of music-making, as Jason himself put it in *The Guardian* in 2009: "Everyone plays instruments down there, and families get together to play. It goes back through the generations to the Appalachian traditions."

Jason recorded and toured with the Drive-by Truckers for six years, contributing to three acclaimed albums, before branching out on his own to release his debut solo record, *Sirens of the Ditch*, in 2007. He went on to release three albums with his newly-formed band, The 400-Unit, but it was with his 2013 solo record *Southeastern* that Jason broke new ground. The album debuted in the Top 40 on the Billboard charts and led to performances on Live at Lincoln Center and Austin City Limits.

Jason's latest record, 2015's *Something More Than Free*, has built substantially upon the success of *Southeastern*, winning him two Grammy Awards, including Best Americana Album, and reaching number one on Billboard's folk, rock, and country charts. Most recently, Jason has found something of a mentor, and colleague, in none other than John Prine — the "only other songwriter who is wise, clever, and empathetic enough to mention in the same breath as Isbell," according to *Stereogum* — with whom he has toured several times. DW

jasonisbell.com



JIM BYRNES AND THE SOJOURNERS

British Columbia

While **Jim Byrnes and The Sojourners** have each performed and recorded separately, the connection between them is lasting. Over a decade ago, Jim, who already had a storied career as a bluesman and actor, needed some backup vocalists for a recording project. He called some singers he knew who had a bent for blues and gospel. The magic of their inimitable harmonies happened as soon as they got to the microphone: they immediately sang as one. Jim dubbed the trio The Sojourners. The name stuck and a legendary group was born.

The Sojourners, **Marcus Mosely, Will Sanders, and Khari McClelland**, sing mainly songs of praise, but they are also at home in raucous roadhouses. They are all American transplants, with a deep background in gospel. Marcus toured the world for 10 years as a missionary, Will has won awards for his performances in musical theatre, and Khari has been a leader in a cappella music, including the group Cornerstone.

A resident of Vancouver for 35 years, Jim is a national treasure of the blues. He cut his musical teeth in his hometown of St. Louis, hanging out in bars where Ike and Tina Turner were the house band and performers like Muddy Waters regularly appeared. He lost much of his mobility in a car accident in 1972, but that didn't stop him. His career blossomed in the '80s when he became a staple of the Canadian blues scene, playing up to 300 shows per year.

Jim's music has earned him three Junos as well as numerous Maple Blues and Western Canadian Music awards. He has also racked up an impressive list of acting and voiceover credits, including appearances on series such as *Highlander*, *Da Vinci City Hall*, *Wiseguy*, and *Stargate: Infinity*. MS

jamestbyrnes.com
thesojourners.ca



JOAN SHELLEY

United States

There's a story out there that **Joan Shelley's** most recent album was written on the Greek island of Thessaloniki, in the back of an abandoned hair salon of all places. But then there's another story that the Greek island story about *Over and Even* is just that: a story, a tall tale evocative of the creation of Vashti Bunyan's 1970 debut album.

Regardless of the veracity of either story, the actual truth of the matter is that Joan Shelley is the real thing, a folk singer/songwriter inspired by and reminiscent of a previous generation of singers such as Bunyan and Sandy Denny but clearing a path of her own.

A native of the bluegrass state of Kentucky, Shelley has created her career in folk music in a quiet but determined way. In five years she has recorded five full albums of her own, as well as three more albums with Maiden Radio, a trio with Kentucky players Cheyenne Miza and Julia Purcell. Shelley has appeared on NPR, toured worldwide including dates with Bonnie "Prince" Billy and Elephant Micah. This summer, including her appearance at the Folkfest, will be the first time she's performed in Canada. "(Joan Shelley) is a Kentucky singer with Sandy Denny timbre and a clarity of tone like Miles Davis' horn circa *Kind of Blue*," wrote *Rolling Stone*. "...kind of folk, sorta slowcore and vaguely country, projecting a huge, resplendently pained serenity." WA

joanshelleynet



JOËL FAFARD

British Columbia

Joël Fafard's love of the blues goes back to his coming of age in Regina, when the local biker bar Georgia Fats was a destination for musicians from the Chicago blues scene. He was also inspired by the fingerpicking style of Bruce Cockburn, took lessons with local bluesman Jack Semple, and went on to spend two years in the jazz program at Vancouver's Capilano University before combining these influences into his own style. With his weathered baritone and wicked guitar work — mostly National steel — Joël has carved out a music career that has included stints as a singing, song-writing roots rocker, an acoustic guitar instrumentalist, and, most recently, a southern roots and blues revivalist. He launched his professional career in the mid-90s as a member of Scruj MacDuhk, the predecessor of the Juno-winning Grammy-nominated Duhks.

With a Juno nomination, a Western Canadian Music Award, two WCMA nominations and two Canadian Folk Music Award nominations to his credit, Joël has been extensively recognized as one of Canada's leading acoustic guitarists.

Joël's music was featured in the TV shows *Alice I Think* and *Road Trip Nation*, and he co-scored the TV series *Middle of Somewhere* with Jason Plumb. In 2008, he was commissioned by The Globe Theatre in Regina to write a one-man show of tunes with tales. He's also one of the funniest and most personable entertainers, a sure shot performer to catch this year. EvR

joelfafard.com





JOHN WORT HANNAM AND THE BLUE COLLARS

Alberta

Did **John Wort Hannam** use his experience as a teacher to become a storyteller or did that skill influence the choice of his first career? As a nine year old he left the Jersey Channel Islands for Alberta. After completing a degree in Native studies he taught full time for five years before taking the leap into the life of a working musician.

He has travelled throughout Canada, always thriving on the inspiration of seeing new landscapes and meeting new people. It keeps, he thinks, the muse close at hand. He has met the real cowboys of southwestern Alberta, "a wild-rag-tying, Gus-hat-wearing hill people" and in Labrador he wrote songs with the schoolchildren of Goose Bay and the Inuit and Innu students from the north shore.

John's mantra is "You're dead a long time, so you better get out there and make something beautiful." Winning the 2010 Contemporary Album of the Year from the Canadian Folk Music Awards and gaining a Juno nomination for Best Traditional/Roots album is proof that he has walked the talk.

He has been compared to fellow EFMF artist Tom Russell in his musical narratives. His lyrics relate a sense of the prairies and the life of simple working folks which his listeners can connect to. His talent is, as he puts it, in "songs that speak of the Prairies with the eloquence of a Sinclair Ross or a W.O. Mitchell, a Margaret Laurence or a Sharon Butala." His songwriting is also compared to the styles of John Prine, Loudon Wainwright III and Steve Earle. Don't miss him. MP

johnworthannam.com



KAIL BAXLEY

United States

When **Kail Baxley** plays the blues, he evokes the very tradition of the genre. Not necessarily in terms of his style, inflected with gospel, soul, hip hop, and indie rock, but he follows in the tradition of early blues masters in having lived the hard life. And life for Baxley has been hard. Born in a South Carolina town so small it's not even on the map, Baxley was raised by his grandfather Woody after being abandoned by his parents. Woody died when Baxley was 12, so he moved from foster home to foster home, rarely staying in one place for more than a year.

But many say the blues is also hopeful music, and despite his hard young life, Baxley was hopeful. At first, his ticket was to become a Golden Gloves champion boxer, on his way to the Olympics. But life hit back and some legal trouble ended that dream. Still, he didn't lose hope, and channeled his energies into his other love: music. Living in an RV for two years, he saved up to record his first album *Heat Stroke/The Wind and The War*. Written with his soon-to-be signature mash up of genres, it was nominated for Best Album of the Year by NPR. He followed that with *A Light That Never Dies*, also a critical hit.

"It's too early to add Baxley to the list of those legendary names who have been so influential in soul's history," wrote *American Songwriter*, "but with this daring, uncompromising and genre-pushing release, he's well on his way." Don't be surprised if Kail is the folk festival artist every one will be talking about this year. WA

kailbaxley.com

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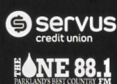
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KALEO

Iceland

If you close your eyes when you hear Iceland quartet Kaleo for the first time, you might have a mistaken impression of the band. Mixing folk balladry with fiery blues rock will instantly make you think they're from a cross-section of America, as if Jack Johnson grew up along the banks of the Mississippi, soaking up the various incarnations of blues as the music made its way north from the delta. Further confusing geographic sensibilities, the word Kaleo, means "the sound" in Hawaiian.

But Kaleo's origin's story, begins in a garage a long way away from the beaches of Hawaii, the Mississippi delta or the music soaked streets of Austin, Texas, where they now make their home. Originally from Iceland, the members of Kaleo — **Davíð Antonsson**, **Daniel Ægir Kristjánsson**, **Jökull Júlíusson** and **Rubin Pollock** met in elementary school. At the ages of 17, they began jamming in the above said garage, playing a few gigs around their home island.

During a local radio show, they performed their version of a traditional folk song, "Vor í vaglaskógi," and it instantly went viral. That led to a record deal with Iceland's largest record company, followed by an international deal with Atlantic records, tour dates throughout Europe and North America, plus a video shoot in Þrihnúkagigur, one of largest volcano craters in the world. Their song, "No Good," full of driving guitars and fiery vocals made it onto the soundtrack of HBO's new record industry show, *Vinyl*. There's no doubt Kaelo will attract a wide spectrum of fans at this year's Folkfest. WA

officialkaleo.com



KRUGER BROTHERS

Switzerland/United States

Who would have thought that some of the world's finest bluegrass-based music would come from the hands and minds of two brothers from Switzerland? Yes, it's a long way from the Matterhorn to Cumberland Gap, but the **Kruger Brothers** have bridged it with their unique take on Americana.

Jens Kruger, an award winning banjo player, and his guitarist brother **Uwe**, were exposed to the music of Bill Monroe, Flatt and Scruggs and other bluegrass greats while growing up in the German part of Switzerland. They started performing publicly by the age of 12, signed a recording contract by the age of 17, had their own national radio show and spent years busking all over Europe as a duo. In 1995 they teamed up with New York-based bassist **Joel Landsberg** to form the trio that still tours the world today. They have been based in Wilkesboro, North Carolina since 2002.

While respecting the bluegrass tradition, the Kruger Brothers have added a distinctly European flavour to their music, inserting a classical element to the mix. They have composed classical pieces such as *Appalachian Concerto* and *Lucid Dream*, and regularly perform with symphony orchestras and string quartets. As Jens explains, incorporating folk music into classical works is a tradition that goes back for over 150 years from the likes of Brahms and Tchaikovsky.

They have won numerous honours as a trio and individually, including a prestigious National Endowment for the Arts award. But one of the greatest compliments came from the late great Doc Watson, who said: "The Kruger Brothers are just about as fine a band as I've ever played with. . . . I love to play music with them." MS

www.krugerbros.com



LERA LYNN
United States

The actress who played the troubadour singing in *True Detective*, at the dingy bar where Colin Farrell's character drank away his sorrows, was incredible. The woman in those scenes is songwriter **Lera Lynn**. Following her successful recurring role on the show last fall, she promptly got to work recording her third album and booked a headlining tour through North America.

Initially, she wasn't supposed to be in the series, her music was — she had been invited by music director T Bone Burnett to help write songs for the series. This was a coup of its own, especially since they recorded those songs at Rosanne Cash's house. But when Burnett heard songs from Lynn's EP *Lying in the Sun*, he thought her sparse and haunting song writing would be perfect for the atmospheric series. In the end, those five songs she wrote and recorded were so perfect that when the show runner heard them, he insisted Lynn play the role of the singer.

And Lynn, who already had a very respectable career in music prior to the show, was vaulted into the spotlight. Not just for her acting skills ("She should win all the acting awards. All of them. Maybe invent a few," wrote *People*), but for her voice and her introspective and darkly atmospheric songs, bits of alt-country noir. "There's an uncanny emotional component to her work," wrote *Rolling Stone*. "With echoing guitars that quiver like a nervous lip and lyrics that place enough cracks in the narrative to let a dreamlike sense of wonder settle in." WA

leralynn.com



**LINDA TILLERY AND
THE CULTURAL HERITAGE CHOIR**
United States

It's been more than five years since we've heard the lush and vibrant voices of **Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir** resonate around Gallagher Park. Folk fest veterans will attest: you really haven't lived until you've woken up a bit earlier on the Folkfest Sunday, made your way down to the grounds, bleary-eyed and fatigued from Saturday night's main stage show and plunked your butt down on the grass in front of Stage Three and taken in Linda Tillery and the choir.

For the uninitiated, Linda Tillery began her music career in the late 1960s, eventually working as a producer and session player (singer and percussion) with artists such as Santana, Bobby McFerrin, Mary Watkins, and Kenny Loggins. In 1992, she stumbled upon field recordings of traditional African-American songs, a treasure trove of not only music but history. Within months the Cultural Heritage Choir was formed and quickly became one of the most vital African-American groups to appear onstage.

In using traditional songs and chants, delivered through call-and-response, multi-layered harmonies, and repetitive verse, the Cultural Heritage Choir has its roots firmly in the past but with a solid vision on the future. They've performed around the world, collaborated with Eric Bibb and Taj Mahal, and been nominated for a Grammy Award. So do yourself a favour and find Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir this year, be it on a Sunday morning or any other moment, sit yourself down on the ground and be ready to receive the musical redemption you rightly deserve. WA

culturalheritagechoir.com



LISA HANNIGAN AND AARON DESSNER

Ireland/United States

One of **Lisa Hannigan's** earliest memories is of riding in the car with her mother and older brother, singing along to Joni Mitchell. It was a formative moment, since this day, Lisa's music is often mentioned in the same breath as Joni, alongside Emmylou Harris, Nina Simone, even Miles Davis. As jazz giant Herbie Hancock, also a fan of Lisa's music, observes, "There's so much jazz in the notes and phrases that she picks. She was singing the ninths, the elevenths of the chords... I mean some of the things sound like choices that Miles would have made."

Born and raised in Ireland, Lisa Hannigan came to the attention of the musical world during her partnership with Damien Rice. She provided vocals to two of his albums as well singing and playing guitars, bass and drums for his touring band. Hannigan can also play the harmonium, the melodia, the banjo, the thumb piano, the mandolin, the ukulele, the glockenspiel, and a wide variety of other percussion instruments. And when the partnership broke up, she released her first solo album, *Sea Sew*, which brought her international attention, and nominations for Best Irish Album and the coveted Mercury Prize in the UK.

Since then, she's released a follow up, *At Swim*, produced with The National's **Aaron Dessner**. Aaron, who apart from playing guitar and keyboard for The National and having produced all their albums, will be joining Lisa on her tour this summer. Aaron, who is based in Brooklyn, has won a Grammy for his work with The National but he has also produced albums for a dizzying array of contemporary musicians and guest performed with luminaries such as David Byrne and Feist.

Quite simply, these are unmissable artists from the lineup this year. WA

lisahannigan.ie



LP

United States

Born Laura Pergolizzi on Long Island, NY, **LP** currently calls Los Angeles home. Moving to New York City after high school, this indie rocker chose the stage name LP. With a look reminiscent of a 1960s Bob Dylan, and a sound somewhere between Buffy Saint Marie and Tegan and Sara, LP has a big voice and powerful vibrato. The result is music that is sheer force.

That said, LP's secret superpower is her songwriting. Sure, she has released three of her own albums. But she has also penned songs for the likes of Rihanna, Christina Aguilera, Rita Ora, and Cher. Over the course of her career, beginning with Def Jam, moving to Universal, and finally landing at Warner Brothers, LP has written hundreds of songs for herself and for others. Unsurprisingly, for a long time she thought her path in the industry might be simply as a songwriter for other artists.

The call of the stage, however, was mighty, in no small part because of her remarkable talents as a vocalist, a guitarist, and even ukulele-ist. Her 2012 album *Into the Wild: Live at EastWest Studios* showcases this incredible raw talent and her ability to absorb her audience totally. She released her latest album, *Forever for Now*, in 2014, and is currently working on a fourth studio effort. Touring through the USA this summer, she has only a few Canadian stops and luckily one of them is here on our Edmonton Folk Festival stage. EmR

iamlp.com



THE MAE TRIO

Australia

With experience, talent, and a growing list of accolades that belies their young ages, **The Mae Trio** is a fast-rising force in the Australian music scene. The trio formed in 2011, when sisters **Maggie Rigby** (banjo, ukulele, guitar, marimba and vocals) and **Elsie Rigby** (fiddle, ukulele and vocals), joined up with **Anita Hillman** (cello, bass and vocals). The Rigby sisters started their musical careers at the ages of 14 and 12, respectively, touring with their family band, The Rainmakers. Meanwhile, Anita had already made a name for herself performing with the popular Australian folk outfit Evelyn's Secret.

Their spine-tingling, three-part harmonies, complex arrangements, and the depth of their collective songwriting abilities quickly "made a meteoric mark on the national acoustic music scene," in the words of Australia's *Rhythms* magazine. Their debut album, 2013's *Housewarming*, was recognized by winning the Folk Alliance Australia Youth Award, the prestigious Maton Class Act Award, and the NFSA Folk Recording of the Year.

In addition to making a splash in their native country, The Mae Trio has performed widely around the globe, with appearances at the Folk Alliance International Conference in Kansas City (*The Bluegrass Situation* called them "easily the breakout act" of the festival), Glasgow's Celtic Connections, and the Americana Festival in Nashville showing the depth of their roots in folk music traditions. Despite their focus on touring, the three also released their second album, the five-song album *September*, in the fall of 2015 and show no signs of slowing down. In the words of Songlines, they are "definitely a trio to keep an eye and ear (or two) out for." SH
themaetrio.com



MARTIN AND ELIZA CARTHY

England

Martin and Eliza Carthy need no introduction to fans of British folk music. Individually, and collectively with their extended family in the Waterson:Carthy musical dynasty, this father-daughter duo embodies continuity in tradition. Both are innovators on their respective instruments of guitar and fiddle and are pioneers of song interpretation. This duo can be handed a hefty part of the credit for the currently thriving state of the British folk revival.

Having made his first bold appearance in England's burgeoning folk scene in the mid-'60s, Martin has been an unwavering stalwart of it ever since; he was twice a member of iconic folk-rock outfit Steeleye Span, and has enjoyed fruitful collaborations with a staggering list of folk luminaries, perhaps most notably with Dave Swarbrick - their decades-long musical partnership began with Martin's eponymous 1965 debut solo album. Martin began singing with the venerable Waterson family in 1972, marrying Norma Waterson soon after. Eliza was born in 1975 and began performing with her parents when she was six years old; the family has been playing together as Waterson:Carthy since the mid-'90s. By no means has Eliza kept herself safe in the shadows of her formidable parents, however; her bold and extensive discography of solo work has earned her two Mercury-prize nominations and a slew of BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Martin himself was given a Lifetime Achievement Award at the BBC Folk Awards in 2014.

The spirit and dynamism brought to traditional English song by this duo was summed up best by Martin himself in an interview for *The Guardian* a few years ago: "That's what folk music is: the intuitive nature of the whole thing among people who love messing about with stuff and coming up with something else to keep the continuity going; people who aren't intimidated by how venerable it is. A song cannot survive if it is not being played - it is either played or it perishes." DW

watsonscarthy.com

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MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER

United States

"Unwrapping a new **Mary Chapin Carpenter** album" writes *Rolling Stone Magazine*, "is not unlike the experience of cracking the spine on a highly anticipated memoir." This year, as she tours her fourteenth studio recording, she will be sharing her "resolute collection of sharply observed sketches ... brimming with literary detail and ringing with universal truth."

Ivy-league-educated and influenced by legends such as Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell, she has always stood alone in her lyrical perceptiveness and ability to move between musical genres. She started off playing coffeehouses in Washington, D.C. in the mid-1970s. Her first album, *Hometown Girl*, was released much later, in 1987, and was produced by John Jennings, the producer behind talents such as Iris DeMent and The Indigo Girls. Though songs from the album got play on public and college radio stations, it was not until Columbia Records began promoting Carpenter as a "country" artist that she, ironically, found a wider audience. For a long time, Carpenter was ambivalent about this pigeonholing, saying she preferred the term "singer-songwriter" or "slash rocker" (as in country/folk/rocker).

This success crested in her fourth album, 1992's *Come On Come On*, which went quadruple platinum and had seven singles which made the charts, including the honky tonk/country rock single, "I Feel Lucky." Her next album, *Stones in the Road*, included "Shut Up and Kiss Me," which went to the top of the Billboard Country Charts.

Carpenter has won five Grammy Awards and is the only artist to have won four consecutive Grammy Awards for Best Female Country Vocal Performance, which she received from 1992 to 1995. On October 7, 2012, Mary Chapin Carpenter was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame. MP

marychapincarpenter.com



MATT MOLLOY AND JOHN CARTY WITH ARTY MCGLYNN

Ireland

One of the most exciting traditional groups of recent times, flute virtuoso **Matt Molloy** and fiddler extraordinaire **John Carty** bring to the stage the rich tradition of Ireland's north Connaught area. Joined by fellow countryman, guitar player, **Arty McGlynn**, the superstar trio pushes musical boundaries while delighting audiences.

Matt is considered by many as amongst the greatest traditional flute players. A master of the Sligo tradition of flute and tin whistle, he has also played a vital role in the evolution of Irish music. During the burgeoning folk scene of the 1970s, Matt was a founding member of the famous folk group The Bothy Band, and over the years has played with Planxty and The Chieftains. He has also released several highly acclaimed solo albums and has worked with other accomplished musicians, including his trio recording with Tommy Peoples and Paul Brady.

John developed his love for fiddle, banjo, and flute, all of which he has mastered, through his multi-instrumentalist father, a member of London's celebrated Glenside Ceili Band in the 1960s. He has three solo fiddle albums, two banjo albums, two group albums and a sprinkling of recorded tenor guitar and flute music recordings in his repertoire.

Rounding out the lineup is Arty, the perfect foil to Matt and John. Through his work as a soloist, accompanist, composer and arranger he has inspired a generation of musicians. His classic album *McGlynn's Fancy* (1979) continues to influence players of traditional Irish guitar music.

Together the three released *Pathway to the Wells* (2007). Mostly recorded live in Matt's local pub, the project was declared by *Irish Music Magazine* as "one of those must-have flute and fiddle albums." RK

mattmolloy.ie
johncartymusic.com
taramusic.com/biogs/artymbg.htm



MATTHEW BYRNE

Newfoundland

Newfoundland's **Matthew Byrne** has gained a formidable reputation over the last six years as one of Canada's finest interpreters of traditional song. Afraid neither to strip a song back nor dress it up with lush instrumentation, he keeps the song at the centre of his interpretations. In so doing, he effortlessly creates a sound that Great Big Sea's Alan Doyle described as "somehow fresh and ancient at the same time."

Matthew couldn't have come by his profession of traditional song interpreter more honestly. As a child, he was surrounded not only by the music, but also by the culture of tradition-bearing: his father was a singer and guitarist, his mother was a folksinger and dedicated song collector, and parties where the banging out of traditional songs into the wee hours was inevitable were the norm.

Matthew burst onto the Canadian traditional scene in 2010 with his debut album *Ballads*, and a year later joined feisty folk band The Dardanelles, allowing him to develop his already considerable skill as an instrumentalist, and to build his writing chops. His latest album, *Hearts and Heroes*, features two of his original tunes, along with a fine array of songs lovingly handpicked from a variety of sources, including some that he inherited directly from members of his family. For Matthew, it matters not from where the song came, only that he can continue its life and become a part of its story. DW

matthewbyrne.net



MAURA O'CONNELL AND KARAN CASEY

Ireland

Maura O'Connell and **Karan Casey** have much in common. They're both long-treasured Irish vocalists, and famed interpreters of traditional and contemporary material. Both have strong musical roots on both sides of the Atlantic, and both are prolific collaborators who have worked with the best and brightest that Anglo-American roots music has to offer. They were bound to come together eventually.

Maura grew up in a musical family in County Clare. She began her career as a vocalist on an American tour with Irish band De Dannan in 1980. Six years later, she relocated to Nashville, Tennessee, having become interested in the experimental roots music of the likes of Bela Fleck and Jerry Douglas. Over the last three decades, she has released a dozen solo albums, including the 2009 a cappella album *Naked With Friends*.

Karan discovered her joy for singing jazz and classical music in Dublin, before relocating to the States to study jazz at Long Island University. It was in New York's Irish session scene that Karan re-engaged with her roots, and she soon became a sought-after interpreter of traditional material, touring for several years with American-Irish band Solas. Her solo career manifested in six studio albums and collaborative work with luminaries like Bela Fleck, Lunasa, The Dubliners, and Imelda May. Her latest release, 2014's *Two More Hours* is her first album of entirely self-penned songs, and marks a return to her early love of jazz and R&B. DW

mauraoconnell.com

karancasey.com



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Alberta





MIKE FARRIS AND THE ROSELAND RHYTHM REVUE

United States

After single-handedly bringing audience after audience to their feet at last year's Folk Fest with his heart-filling anthems of love, grace, and redemption, **Mike Farris** returns to share his magic. His powerful, soulful voice simultaneously pulls down mercy from the heavens and true grit up from the earth, and rings out with the clarity of truth.

A self-described Southern boy, Mike grew up in Tennessee, and had a troubled youth of alcoholism and drug addiction. After nearly dying from an overdose, he pulled himself out of his addictions and formed the blues jam band Screamin' Cheetah Wheelies in Nashville, where he had moved in with his father. After a decade and three albums, during which time Mike had fallen back into old habits, he left the band, took some time off to get properly clean and sober, and then launched a solo career centred on the gospel music that had gotten him through his hiatus.

It was with his second solo album, 2007's *Salvation in Lights*, that (as Mike himself put it) "everything just blew up." The album won him a record deal with Sony and the Americana Music Award for New/Emerging Artist. But arguably the real breakthrough came with last year's *Shine for All the People*, which won him the inaugural Grammy for Best Roots Gospel Album. But for Mike, music is church and has a larger purpose. As he told *Rolling Stone*, "The Grammy is fine, but the big mission is helping somebody make a decision to become a better human being. That's why we do what we do." DW

mikefarrismusic.com



MOHSIN ZAMAN

Pakistan/Alberta

Born in Karachi, Pakistan, **Mohsin Zaman** has traveled a long road to his current home in Edmonton. His first album, *Waking Up*, explored that journey and his complicated cultural relationship to Canada and the Middle East, where he returns often to visit his family, now living in Dubai. A beautiful acoustic guitarist and folk-alternative singer, his voice has been described as "haunted by heartbreak, curiosity and ever-bearing hope." With a sound that could be called a mash-up of City and Colour, Damien Rice, and Art Garfunkel, Zaman's talent is undeniable.

In 2015 he was runner-up for the Emerging Artist of the Year at the Edmonton Folk Festival, and in 2016 he was nominated for three Edmonton Music Awards and took home the Male Artist of the Year award. He performed last year on the Edmonton based YouTube channel, *The Northern Sessions*, created by three Edmontonians to give local music a platform. Earlier this year he was invited by *Shaping Sound*, a touring dance company, to play onstage during their ballet class, and "magic was made!" In May of this year, he released his eagerly anticipated sophomore album, *Fly Home*.

With his long black hair and bohemian style, his musical skills and sensitivity beyond his years, he is sure to wow the crowds this year when he brings his new album to the Folk Festival stage. EmR

mohsinzaman.bandcamp.com



MURRAY PORTER

British Columbia

As a Mohawk from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory in southern Ontario, **Murray Porter** says he is “a red man, singing the black man’s blues, living in a white man’s world.” In his mixture of country, blues, and humour, and with his gravelly, soulful voice, Porter tells of the history and contemporary stories of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

Murray’s earliest memories of the blues inspired his life’s passion. “When I was about 11 years old I remember listening to blues radio under the covers at home late at night. This is when I first heard ‘The Thrill is Gone’ by B.B. King. I was hooked!” He taught himself the ropes: singing, songwriting and piano. He’s spent the last 30 years playing the blues throughout the world, spreading his unique style of foot-stomping, hand clapping, rockin’ blues piano. He has been compared to Dr. John, Joe Cocker, Leon Russell, and Delbert McClinton. None other than Robbie Robertson has called him “a master bluesman.”

Murray’s latest CD, *Songs Lived & Life Played*, was released to rave reviews on September 26, 2011, and won the 2012 Juno Award for Aboriginal Album of the Year. He was also a 2005 Juno nominee for his album *Full Circle* with his former group, The Pappy Johns Band, and was a Canadian Aboriginal Music Award winner that year for Best Blues Musician. He’s shared the stage with hundreds of artists including B.B. King, the late Etta James, The Neville Brothers, Tom Cochrane, Burton Cummings, Marcia Ball, and The Funk Brothers. EvR



NATHANIEL RATELIFF

& THE NIGHT SWEATS

United States

“The one thing that made me want to write and play music was trying to get the same feeling that it gave me when I listened to it,” says the namesake and frontman of Denver, Colorado-based **Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats**. “Like having an anxiety attack—where you almost start to weep, at the same time feel a strange pressure in your chest.”

That overpowering sensation is becoming familiar to an ever-growing following drawn to the band’s soulful blend of vintage R&B, Americana, and roots rock, not to mention the intensity of their blistering live shows. While the driving horns and bluesy gospel-revival feeling of the seven-piece built around Nathaniel’s powerful voice—“a startling instrument given to volatile swings from a resonant murmur to massive surges of emotion,” according to *Paste*—seems a far cry from Nathaniel’s folkier solo work, the intimacy of his songwriting remains true to his roots.

Born in Herman, Missouri, Nathaniel left both school and the small town after Grade 7 following the death of his father, spending the next decade as a labourer on a loading dock. He increasingly turned to writing and performing songs as a means of expression, becoming a staple in Denver’s burgeoning folk scene. The 2015 eponymous debut of Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats maintains that commitment to honesty, with powerful confessionals of love, regret, and struggles with the bottle. “Although the songs are heavy, I want it to be a release for people,” says Nathaniel. “I’m trying to do something that’s emotionally charged and heartfelt, and I want the experience to be joyous. I can remember dancing around to some song that was breakin’ my heart, dancin’ with tears in my eyes. I love that feeling, and I wanna share it with people, and hopefully they’ll feel it too.” SH

nathanielrateliff.com



THE NATIONAL STILTWALKERS

Alberta

Whether taking the form of giant Gothic mosquitos, haiku-spreading samurai, masked belly dancers, members of a Baroque court, or energized disco dancers, **The National Stiltwalkers** of Canada have become a towering presence at festivals around Edmonton. First brought together to perform at the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2001 International Amateur Athletic Federation World Games in Edmonton, the society has brought its ever-growing gallery of costumed characters to international attention. A diverse group of roughly a dozen stiltwalkers ranging in age from under 10 to over 60, the Edmonton-based company now performs more than 40 shows a year, and has stood tall from coast to coast in both Canada and the United States and as far away as China. In addition to its frequent festival appearances, the society offers beginner classes and ongoing training to the altitudinally inclined, and in 2012 established its own training and practice space in the city, dubbed The Stilt Dojo. SH

nationalstiltwalkersofcanada.ca



PASSENGER

United Kingdom

Known for his intimate folk, **Passenger**, the stage name of British singer-songwriter Mike Rosenberg, paid his dues as a modern day troubadour, playing hundreds of gigs in small pubs and spending countless hours busking. Then he hit the proverbial "overnight" success with his single "Let Her Go," which in 2013 topped the charts in over a dozen countries, reached Top 5 on Billboard, and sold over 2.5 million copies.

In its first incarnation as a band, Passenger took root from a collaboration between Rosenberg and his friend, composer Andrew Philips, as well as a shifting number of backup musicians. The union produced the group's debut *Wicked Man's Rest* (2007) that spawned several singles, including "Walk You Home," "Do What You Like," and "Table for One." On the heels of their first release, the band provided the soundtrack to the British comedy *Where Have I Been All Your Life?* and performed at the 2008 SXSW festival in Austin, Texas, before Mike and Andrew parted ways. The band went on to release the acoustically stripped down *Wild Eyes Blind Love* (2009) before they too split.

Retaining the band's name, Mike went solo hitting the road through Europe with a backpack, suitcase full of CDs and his guitar. Eventually migrating to Australia, where he earned a strong following, he released *Flight of the Crow* (2009), which chronicles his intrepid musical journey and features a series of collaborations with musical friends met along the way. His biggest commercial success, *All the Little Lights* (2012), put Passenger's career on a different trajectory, and led to supporting Ed Sheeran on tour and collaborating with pop stars from Taylor Swift to One Direction.

Passenger's latest efforts are *Whispers* (2014) that includes the track "Heart on Fire," which one critic has called the artist's "grandest love song", and the follow-up *Whispers II* (2015) whose profits are benefiting Unicef U.K.'s work in Liberia. RK

passengermusic.com



PETER ASHER AND ALBERT LEE

United Kingdom/United States

Between them, **Peter Asher** and **Albert Lee** have had an incomparable influence on music on both sides of the Atlantic, having associated with everyone from The Beatles to The Everly Brothers, from Emmylou Harris to James Taylor. And the recent collaboration of these two giants creates a new kind of magic.

In his younger days, Peter Asher was half of Peter and Gordon with his partner, the late Gordon Waller. They had been playing together since their school days, but their career got a boost with a little help from their friends, The Beatles. Paul McCartney was dating his sister Jane, and that connection gave them access to a John Lennon—penned “reject” called “World Without Love,” which became a monster hit. Peter later headed the A & R department at Apple Records, signing the young unknown James Taylor and became his manager. He also produced albums for many top artists from Linda Ronstadt to Cher.

Albert Lee is simply one of the best guitarists on the planet. Raised in London, he started at piano, and inspired by the likes of The Crickets, switched to guitar while still a pre-teen. He never looked back. A full time musician since the age of 16, he played the clubs and developed both a love for country music and a unique hybrid picking style on his Telecaster. Eventually he moved to the United States, touring with The Crickets and doing session work with Don Everly before joining Emmylou Harris’s Hot Band. Over the years he also collaborated with the likes of Eric Clapton, Bill Wyman, Earl Scruggs and Brad Paisley.

As a reviewer of one of Albert and Peter’s concerts wrote in the American website examiner.com, “One couldn’t have asked for two nicer, more talented blokes.” MS

peterashermusic.com

albertlee.co.uk



THE PINES

United States

The Pines are an indie-folk band whose music is preoccupied with familiar subject matter for the Edmonton folk fest audience: the Prairies. The midwestern band proudly embraces its roots, making music that takes “quietly gripping” portraits of prairie landscapes and digs into local, small-town histories.

The band is a trio: brothers **Benson and Alex Ramsey** and **David Huckfelt**. Their sound, they say, is a blend of “celestial, ethereal atmospherics with rich, warm vocals and earthly acoustic instruments.”

Ironic for a band that is so preoccupied with prairie geography, the band actually formed in Arizona, where both David and Benson found themselves living in the same Mexican barrio. Both Iowa natives, they bonded over their home state and shared musical influences. Once The Pines was formed, they returned to the Midwest, moving to Minneapolis, where they situated themselves both physically and sonically within the lineage of Bob Dylan, The Replacements, and The Jayhawks.

Their idiosyncratic take on folk begets the most lovely critical reviews: their music is “haunting yet comfortable” (*Rift Magazine*), and “simply and eloquently stated sonic poetry... the real deal” (*Acoustic Guitar*). About their latest recording, *Above The Prairie*, *Exclaim!* enthused, “The sparse and haunting mood of the album washes over you like an early morning fog... poetic lyrics also gently insinuate themselves with every spin.” JS

thepinesmusic.com

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RIVER WHYLESS

United States

Like the rivers that flow through the Appalachian Blue Ridge Mountains of their hometown of Asheville, North Carolina, the music of **River Whyless** is deep, mesmerizing, and full of compelling eddies that become ever more intriguing as you pay attention to the finer details. The abundant talents of members **Ryan O'Keefe** (guitars, vocals), **Halli Anderson** (violin, vocals), **Alex McWalters** (drums, percussion) and **Daniel Shearin** (bass, vocals, harmonium, cello, banjo) flow together as seamlessly as water, their contributions mingling to create rich arrangements filled with lush harmonies.

Formed in 1996 under the 1984-inspired moniker Do It To Julia! while its members were attending Appalachian State University, the quartet started playing house concerts and shows in the university town of Boone, North Carolina, eventually releasing *Archie Carrol* in 2007. After graduating, the four moved to Asheville and changed their name to the more-fitting-for-their-sound River Whyless in 2009, and began touring extensively in North America. In 2012 they released their debut album *A Stone, A Leaf, An Unfound Door*. The title was taken from a passage in fellow-Asheville Thomas Wolfe's *Look Homeward, Angel*, which conjured the same romantic, powerfully emotional style and deep sense of place.

With an ever-growing base of support from coast to coast built from a steady stream of live shows, in 2015 the four released their much-anticipated follow up, a five-song eponymous EP, to rave reviews. As *Paste* magazine put it, "River Whyless is an act that's capable of tugging at your heartstrings with little notice, leaving you reeling before their next words come out . . . a band capable of seamlessly slipping between soft, serene ballads and heart-wrenching, foot-stomping anthems at the drop of a hat." SH

riverwhyless.com



ROSE COUSINS

Prince Edward Island

With her entrancing voice and provoking lyrics, **Rose Cousins** has been called "one of Canada's most respected young singer-songwriters" by NPR. Her gorgeous melodies have appeared on her three-and-counting records, television shows and in countless collaborations. In short, she's one of those slow burn artists, quietly building an impressive career that EFMF audiences are lucky to be able to continue to witness.

Rose's passionate delivery, distinctive voice, and poignant songwriting form a deep connection with her listeners. As *The Irish Times* said, "Her lyrics are direct and forthright, her voice is crystal clear." Her talents have been recognized by two Canadian Folk Music awards, as well as a half dozen East Coast, three Nova Scotia and three Prince Edward Island Music awards. She's been on the long list for the Polaris Prize, too. Her album *We Have Made a Spark* was a Juno Award winner for Roots and Traditional Music in 2012 and was included in the NPR Top 10 Folk and Americana Albums list. On the small screen, Rose's songs have been used to emphasize climatic scenes in TV shows such as *Gray's Anatomy*, *Saving Hope* and *Lucifer*.

Rose has been madly prolific on the collaboration front, having worked with some of Canada's top roots musicians on her albums, including Royal Wood, Kathleen Edwards, Melissa McClelland and Luke Doucet, and has appeared as a guest on a who's-who of contemporary Canadian musicians' albums. This summer, she's touring in support of her fourth record, a *Kickstarter*-backed album produced by Joe Henry, whom she met at EFMF in 2012. The *Kickstarter* campaign highlighted how precarious and hardscrabble the life of a folk musician is in the twenty-first century — yet, with its fundraising goal well exceeded before the end of the campaign, exactly how popular and cherished Rose's musical talents are. MP

rosecousins.com



SAM BEAM AND JESCA HOOP

United States

There are plenty of duets in the music business, but it's rare to see a collaboration like the one between **Sam Beam** and **Jesca Hoop**. Both are veterans in roots music with successful careers, and together they soar. They are true writing partners, having a "conversation, not a monologue," as Sam told NPR. And the tightly interwoven harmonies created by Sam's warm low voice and Jesca's high taut tones make for a unique blend.

Sam is known as Iron and Wine, a name he adopted from a dietary supplement he saw in a general store. Born and raised in the South, Sam initially had a career in film, being a professor of cinematography at the University of Miami. But starting in the early 2000s, his music attracted the notice of Sub Pop Records, and drew comparisons to the likes of Nick Drake and Neil Young. He has recorded a half-dozen studio albums and his songs have been used for TV and movies, including *Grey's Anatomy* and *Garden State*, and even for a commercial for M&Ms.

Born in California and now a resident of Manchester, England, Jesca spent much of her youth in the wilderness, working as a guide before moving to Los Angeles and becoming a nanny to Tom Waits' children. Waits, who was her musical mentor, said of Jesca: "She is an old soul, like a black pearl, a good witch, or a red moon. Her music is like going swimming in a lake at night." She also played in the Austin-based band Shearwater before striking out on her own.

Sam only recently discovered Jesca's music accidentally on iTunes, while Jesca discovered Sam's music early after being given a disc by a publicist. "I've listened to Iron and Wine while I've cleaned and cleaned my house," Jesca says.

This year they released their first album together, *Love Letter for Fire*, which *Pitchfork* describes as "a gently rolling record that recalls healing summer storms more than destructive blazes." MS

www.ironandwine.com

www.jescahoop.com



SAM PALLADIO

England

Actor and musician **Sam Palladio** grew up in the southwest of England, surrounded by the beaches, surf and wild coastline of Cornwall. But it was in Music City USA, Nashville Tennessee, that Sam got his acting and musical big break playing the character of Gunnar Scott on ABC's hit TV Drama *Nashville*. Created by Academy award-winning writer Callie Kouri and with executive music producers T Bone Burnett and Buddy Miller, the show allowed Sam to immerse himself in the worlds of Americana, folk and country. He was also able to make music with some of the finest musicians and songwriters in the world. In short, Sam found the perfect platform for the dual career he always dreamed of. He was able to play his music on world famous stages like the Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium, as well as being able to showcase his acting talents to over 6 million viewers a week on prime time TV.

While Sam portrays Gunnar as the soulful, hit country songwriter on the series, Sam in real life is influenced by the folk sounds of the 1960s and 70s and classic storytellers like James Taylor and Paul Simon.

Sam started playing music in his teens and later went to study theatre and music at the prestigious Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance in London.

Sam's other television and film credits include, BBC/Showtime's comedy *Episodes* alongside Matt LeBlanc, AMC's Bafta-nominated Sci-fi drama *Humans*, *Runner Runner* starring Justin Timberlake and Ben Affleck, and Lucasfilm's animated musical, *Strange Magic*. Sam recently recorded his debut EP in Nashville and is set to release it later this year.



SAMANTHA MARTIN AND DELTA SUGAR

Ontario

A rising star on the Canadian roots and blues scene, Edmonton-born singer-songwriter **Samantha Martin** has gained the praise of fans and critics alike with her commanding stage presence, powerhouse vocals, and knack for compelling lyrics.

Compared to Etta James, Mavis Staples, and Janis Joplin, Samantha's vocal prowess was first noticed in fourth grade when she belted out the song "My Favourite Things," while auditioning for a school production of *The Sound of Music*. By her early twenties, Samantha was fronting local cover bands and focusing her efforts on song writing, drawing heavily on contemporary artists such as Lucinda Williams and Wilco. Her dedication paid off and led to the release of her first EP, *Fade* (2004). Within a year, Samantha relocated to Toronto where she recruited some of the city's finest session players on her first full length album, *Back Home* (2008). Needing a band to perform her new original material on stage, she formed Samantha Martin and the Haggard, with whom she released a self-titled album in 2012.

Samantha's current band is **Delta Sugar**: guitarist **Mikey McCallum** and backup vocalists **Sherie Marshall** and **Stacie Tabb**. Together for two years, the new ensemble is the perfect musical vehicle for Samantha's astonishing voice, with the union delivering exquisite three part harmonies, distinct Delta-inspired guitar tones, and a sound that has been described as a "hybrid of soul meets blues meets gospel." Since their formation, the group has released the live EP *Mississippi Sun* (2014) and *Send the Nightingale* (2015) that garnered four 2016 Maple Blues Award nominations, and which one critic has praised as "pure, unadulterated gospel-tinged, neuron-tingling magic."

As friend and fellow musician Serena Ryder puts it, "You may not know it yet, but Samantha Martin is a rock star, she'll tear your heart out one note at a time." RK

samanthamartinmusic.com



SARAH HARMER

Ontario

Going to Tragically Hip concerts as a teenager, **Sarah Harmer** dreamed of becoming a musician. While studying Philosophy and Women's studies at Queen's University in the late 1980s, she joined her first band, The Saddletramps. Her first CD, much later, in 1998, was a set of standards recorded as a Christmas gift for her father. Her friends and family convinced her to release it as an album, and in 1999 she released it independently as *Songs for Clem*.

You Were Here (2000) became Harmer's mainstream breakthrough CD, with the hits "Basement Apartment" and "Don't Get Your Back Up." The album also appeared on many critics' year-end lists, including *TIME* magazine's, which called it the year's best debut album.

Harmer also has appeared as a guest vocalist on albums by other artists, including Blue Rodeo, Great Big Sea, Bruce Cockburn, Skydiggers, Neko Case, Great Lake Swimmers, and The Tragically Hip.

In 2005, Harmer co-founded PERL (Protecting Escarpment Rural Land), an organization that campaigned to protect the Niagara Escarpment from a proposed gravel development. She coproduced and starred in a documentary film about PERL's fight to protect the remaining fresh water supply, save local species, and preserve the ecological balance. *Escarpment Blues* was released in 2006 and won a Juno. In October 2012, PERL won their case against the development and the site was designated as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

In 2011, Harmer participated in the National Parks Project, in which musicians and filmmakers were sent out in teams to various parks to mark the 100th anniversary of the creation of the National Parks of Canada system. Along with musicians Bry Webb, Jim Guthrie, Sarah's music was featured in Scott Smith's film on BC's Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site. EvR

sarahharmer.com



SARAH MACDOUGALL

Yukon

Although **Sarah MacDougall** lives in Whitehorse, she was born in Malmö, Sweden. The Swedish influence on her brand of new wave folk music is strong, says Sarah. "I'm very influenced by Sweden, as well as the 'Swedish melancholy,' which is in my blood. Swedish people discuss everything and think about things deeply.

"I am also very influenced by the vastness of Canadian nature as well as the openness and light heartedness of Canadians," she adds.

Her 2009 debut, *Across the Atlantic*, got four-star reviews in such notable publications as *Q Magazine*, *Penguin Eggs*, and *The Irish Times*. Her album *The Greatest Ones Alive*, released in 2011, has had an equally strong critical response. *No Depression* praises her "arresting voice and strong, well-crafted songs."

In the winter of 2014, she hunkered down under the northern lights in Whitehorse and put the final touches on her latest release, *Grand Canyon*. The album steps outside of traditional folk and flirts with sounds that could have come from The Postal Service or Kate Bush. It keeps the acoustic guitar but infuses the sound with heavier drums and richly textured strings and synths. The songs are about identity, love, fear, hope, growing up, rootlessness, and forgiveness. They are written from the point of view of the hopeful outsiders, trying to figure out their place and make sense of the world.

In 2015 she was nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Award, Contemporary Singer of the Year, for *Grand Canyon*, and she won the WCMA Roots Solo Recording of the Year. Her song, "It's a Storm" was featured in an Italian documentary *The Yukon Blues* by Igor D'India about paddling the Yukon River. EvR

sarahmacdougall.com

SCHOOL OF SONG

Alberta

School of Song is showcasing young Alberta talent for the eighth year at the Edmonton Folk Fest. Founder Rhea March has helped to develop many new musicians and this year brings three exceptional singer-songwriters to our stage.



Eva Foote was born in Louisiana and grew up in Edmonton. The soundtrack of her cross-national childhood was bluegrass. Her father is a musician, and she cut her musical teeth as a backup singer in his band, while also

acting as an actress in local theatre productions. Currently a student at the National Theatre School in Montreal, her song writing is full of thoughtful lyrics and lovely harmonies inspired by Joni Mitchell, Brandi Carlile, and Norah Jones.



Justine Vandergrift's country sound was influenced by Sarah Harmer and Bonnie Raitt — but the profundity of her musical sound is from the influence of the hymns and folk songs she learned growing up in

Lacombe, Alberta. Her original voice strikes imaginative lyrics and melodies. Justine has performed with Eva Foote in the Northern Sessions.



Country music singer-songwriter **Sydney Mae** hails from Cochrane, Alberta. She began performing as a three year old and hasn't stopped amazing her audiences since. The fourteen year old has been

netting serious fanfare for her vocal and guitar talents: in 2013, she won the Big Valley Jamboree "fan favourite" award, followed by the "search" award in 2014. Last year she came home with four first place awards from the North America Country Music Associations International as well as being named Alberta's Men and Women of Country Music Rising Star Award. MP

schoolofsong.com
evateresefoote.bandcamp.com
justinevandergrift.com
sydneymae.ca

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THE STAVES

England

From their debut at their local pub, to their scene stealing performances in the documentary *Austin to Boston*, to opening for Florence and the Machine and Bon Iver, **The Staves** have attracted attention. Critics praise their silken voices, and their intimate, interlinking harmonies. "There is no stand-out, vocally, with all three powerful voices complimenting one another in a way that comes across far more intensely on stage than on record," wrote the *Manchester Evening News*. "It's easy to describe them as note-perfect, but that doesn't even begin to do them justice."

As noted, the Staves — sisters **Camilla, Emily and Jessica Staveley-Taylor** — began their career as open mic performers at a local pub in their hometown of Watford. Their first performance drew on the songs their parents played on a regular basis — Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Fleetwood Mac. They quickly gained a local following that expanded into a national one due to their well received initial EPs, and then followed by performances on Tom Jones' gospel album. That led to record deal offers and their debut album produced by the iconic Glynis Johns (along with his son Ethan who produced Kings of Leon and Ryan Adams). Very quickly they became a mainstay of the British Folk Revival alongside artists like Laura Marling, Mumford and Sons, Noah and The Whale, and the like. The Staves will be a must-see performance for this year. WA

thestaves.com



STEEP CANYON RANGERS

United States

While their collaboration with comedian and banjo player Steve Martin brought the band to wide popularity, **Steep Canyon Rangers** had already earned much critical acclaim and a committed audience by the time they were tapped to back up Steve at a 2009 LA benefit concert.

Formed a decade earlier, the trio of **Graham Sharp** (banjo, harmony vocals), **Woody Platt** (guitar, lead vocals), and **Charles R. Humphrey III** (bass, harmony vocals) began jamming while students at the University of North Carolina. Increasingly drawn to the sounds of bluegrass, they added mandolin player **Mike Guggino** and fiddler Lizzie Hamilton (replaced in 2004 by **Nicky Sanders**), and began to develop a unique style melding traditional and progressive bluegrass, country, folk, and rock.

They released their debut album, *Old Dreams, and New Dreams*, in 2001 and another three by 2005. While renowned for their instrumental ability and tight harmonies, it was the depth and inventiveness of their songwriting ability — with Graham, Charles, and Mike all penning songs — that emerged as the band's greatest strength. In 2006 the Rangers were named Best Emerging Artist by the International Bluegrass Music Association, and had earned another four IBMA nominations by 2010.

Their studio and touring collaboration with Steve Martin began in 2009, with the release of Steve's *The Crow: New Songs for the Five-String Banjo* and 2011's *Rare Bird Alert*, which earned a Grammy nomination for Best Bluegrass Album. The follow-up album, 2012's *Nobody Knows You*, won the Grammy for Best Bluegrass Album. Growing popularity led to a relentless schedule of touring in the years that followed, including an on-stage collaboration with Steve Martin and Edie Brickell that was released as a live album. Showing no signs of slowing down, last summer the band released its ninth studio album, *Radio*, and became a sextet with the addition of percussionist **Mike Ashworth**. SH

steepcanyon.com



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THE STEPCREW

Ontario

Be prepared to stand up and dance when Canada's dance phenomenon **The StepCrew** hits the Festival stage. The Toronto-based ensemble, an expert blend of Riverdance meets Tap Dog, was created by longtime touring members of The Chieftains, **Cara Butler** and **Jon and Nathan Pilatzke**. The acclaimed production also features the world's top talents in Irish, modern tap and Ottawa Valley stepdancing. With each member a master at their respective forms, the troupe's dynamic performers excel in both traditional dance and create modern fusions of all three styles, interpreted through original compositions and choreography.

Beyond their dancing, The StepCrew also boasts an exceptional band comprised of some of the most gifted and respected musicians in the Celtic music scene today, including three world-class champion fiddle players. Along with Cara (Irish stepdancer), Jon (Ottawa Valley stepdancer and fiddler) and Nathan (Ottawa Valley stepdancer), the rest of the outstanding cast includes: **Christine Carr** (tap dancer), **Julie Fitzgerald** (tap dancer and fiddler), **Alyth McCormack** (vocals), **Jeffery McLarnon** (guitar), **Rob Becker** (acoustic and electric bass), **Angelo Miceli** (percussion), and **Mark Sullivan** (fiddle).

"The StepCrew is a show that very simply, cannot be missed," says renowned stepdancer Jean Butler of Riverdance. "The focus, energy, and sheer virtuosity on display is nothing short of mind-boggling." RK

stepcrew.com



T. NILE

British Columbia

Known for blurring musical boundaries in her electro-pop and folk-roots fusion, **T. Nile** was groomed for a musical life. As a very young child, she began accompanying her father, a multi-instrumentalist sidewalk entertainer. By the age of 11, she was part of his act, in a clown's suit, twisting balloons and talking with a horn.

She eventually traded the wig and red nose for a banjo, guitar, synthesizer, and drum machine, and made her way from her native Galiano Island to Vancouver to study voice, composition, and electronic music. Between semesters, she toured, collaborated with artists and producers she met, and translated the experiences in her songwriting.

She also began hosting a monthly showcase at the Railway Club in Vancouver called "Connect," which provided a springboard to recording her first album, 2006's *At My Table*, which received frequent airplay on CBC and campus radio. She went on to release *The Cabin Song* EP in 2009, which included seven new songs that saw her expand on a unique contemporary folk sound the CBC has called a "brazen blend of folk roots and pop and everything in between."

Her long-awaited follow-up *Tingle and Spark* (2014), released as an EP and re-released as a full length album in 2016, borrows from a palette of sounds, from banjo plucking to progressive analog synths. Hailed as her most impressive album to date, it's a serving of slow-burning synth-laden pop, classic country, electronic minimalism and soulful grooves, the full spectrum of T. Nile's creativity and eclectic artistic vision.

"One of Canada's musical gifts to the 21st Century," praises folk writer and historian Gary Cristall. Other accolades include a "Best New/Emerging Artist" win and "Best Contemporary Vocalist" nomination at the Canadian Folk Music Awards and "Critic's Favourite New Discovery" by *Penguin Eggs Magazine*. RK

tnile.com



THE TALLEST MAN ON EARTH

Sweden

Although he is known as such, **Kristian Matsson** may not be **The Tallest Man on Earth**, but he does stand metaphorically heads above many in the neo-folk movement. Like many, Matsson has been compared to a few members of folk music's old guard. Often it's to Bob Dylan, sometimes to Woody Guthrie. But there's something more substantial in Matsson's work that transcends the comparison, and to be honest, the work of many of his peers. Sure, he's got the guitar with the open tuning, the earnest singer-songwriter voice. A beard. And when you initially hear his songs, you think, "I've heard this before... but wait, no I haven't." There's something really new in this familiar sound.

Maybe it's the song writing and the arrangements of his early albums, where it was just him and his guitar recorded so intimately that it felt he climbed into the microphone instead of singing into it. Or maybe it's Matsson's background as a classically trained guitarist who once fronted a melodic orientated, indie rock band called Montezuma. Or maybe it's his Swedish homeland, which is a forward thinking country that can also be a lonely and harsh landscape and is well known for its violent crime fiction. Whatever it is (and it's probably more than just one thing), Matsson may look like the average neo-folkie but he's something a lot more. Deeper, darker, delightful. WA

thetallestmanonearth.com



TASMAN JUDE

Alberta

Hailing from the globally recognized reggae hotbed of Grande Prairie, **Tasman Jude** happened almost by accident. A taco stand worker overheard singing on the job connected two reggae enthusiasts, which led to a three-song impromptu freestyle by the duo at an open mic night, and a crowd reaction so enthusiastic that a Facebook page for a new band was created on the spot.

From there, Tasman Jude hasn't looked back. Within three months the band, currently featuring lead vocalist **Caleb Hart**, **Derek Wilder** on bass and didgeridoo, **Jake Laviollette** on djembe, and additional friends depending on availability, had released its first EP, 2013's *El Norteño*, and began a relentless touring schedule to appease its fast-growing fan base (lovingly referred to as "the family"). Renowned for their passionate and energetic live shows, dance-ready grooves that leave plenty of space for Trinidad and Tobago native Caleb's vocals to soar, and lyrics that are at once socially conscious and infectious in their positivity, they've played over 400 shows across Canada, Australia, and the Caribbean.

They've also somehow managed to find time to release another five singles and drop the first full-length album of a trilogy, intended to encompass the diversity of reggae, 2014's rootsy *Green*, which debuted at #1 on the Canadian iTunes reggae charts. The trilogy's second album, *Gold*, which features an island pop vibe, was released in July, and the forthcoming *Red* will turn to a more ska-focused sound.

"Follow your heart, let your spirit free. Anything is possible if you believe," Caleb sings on "Follow Your Dreams." It's a fitting anthem for a band launching its "Canadian Reggae Infiltration" from northern Alberta. SH

tasmanjude.com



TOM RUSSELL

United States

Tom Russell is a dedicated musical outlier. Originally from Los Angeles, he creates songs that explore the alchemy between cowboy tunes and Irish laments. He calls his a "career built slowly and kept on outside the machine."

He began recording in the early 1970s but by the end of the decade he dropped out of the music industry. After meeting Andrew Hardin in New York, they formed the Tom Russell Band and made four albums between 1984-1994.

His amazing concept albums began with *Man From God Knows Where* in 1999, inspired by American pioneers including his immigrant ancestors. The second part of the trilogy was 2005's *Hotwalker*. The final, *Rose of Rosecræ* was released to wide acclaim in 2015. It is a frontier musical/folk opera following the history and music of his home in El Paso.

Tom's songs have been used in many movies and television shows and recorded by many other artists including Johnny Cash and k.d. lang. For someone who has made a career on the fringes of musical inventiveness, it's fitting that his life has not just been focused on music. He has a masters degree in Criminology from the University of California in Santa Barbara. He has lived in Nigeria, Spain, and Norway and played in a circus in Puerto Rico. He's also an established painter, represented by galleries in Vancouver and San Francisco, and a published author. MP

tomrussell.com



WILLY MASON

United States

When **Willy Mason**, aged 19, emerged on the indie folk scene with the 2004 album, *Where the Humans Eat*, the keen lyrical observations of a seemingly much-older songsmith, the gravely delivery, and honest rawness led many to dub him, his protestations aside, "the new Dylan." Despite the pressure of being held up to Dylan - to say nothing of Johnny Cash and Leonard Cohen, two other names frequently dropped in reviews - the comparisons do hint at the depth of his talent.

And when, on the album's stand-out track "Oxygen," Willy sang, "On and on and on it goes / The world it just keeps spinning / Until I'm dizzy," he was unintentionally singing of his future. The next three years were a torrid pace of activity. He toured extensively in the United States and Europe, playing alongside Radiohead, Beth Orton, KT Tunstall, and Death Cab For Cutie.

Returning to the studio, he recorded and released *If the Ocean Gets Rough*, in early 2007 then hit the road again, including a performance at the Austin City Limits festival (this led to the release of a live album). Tired of the pace of touring, Willy returned to his home on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts to re-ground himself. The result was 2012's *Carry On*, a mature and ambitious album which American Songwriter heralded as "a perfect record ... a complete package that is as airtight as it is simple, as gorgeous as it is rugged, the sort of record that burrows deep into your brain and doesn't let go." He's since toured extensively, both solo and with both Mumford and Sons and Cat Power, and collaborated with Brendan Benson to release, *Upstairs at United Vol. 7*, a live-to-tape analog recording of tracks written by Willy's folk-artist parents. SH

willymasonmusic.com



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
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CBC RADIO 2 DRIVE

Hosted by Rich Tefry, Drive is the song you haven't heard in eons, the band you wish got more radio play, the music you feel passionate about. Roots, rock, acoustic, Brit-pop, modern favorites and, most importantly, Canadian music. It's the fascinating stories behind the music. Weekdays 3:30 PM

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Fridays 2-4 PM

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A sampling of new hip-hop from across the globe, with your host Spooky Luke. Sundays 10-11 PM

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Join Rhea March and a bevy of local singer-songwriters for music and interviews. Tuesdays 1-2 PM

THE SOUNDS OF FOLKWAYS

Exploring the profound depths of the Folkways record label with your host Jean Val Jean. Mondays 6-7 PM

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An eclectic mix of roots, blues, jazz, and who knows what else? Join Figgy Newtunes every Tuesday from 9-11 AM to find out!

POLSKIE RADIO

Polish music and news with Bogdan. Sundays 6-8 PM

PRAIRIE PICKIN'

A weekly look at bluegrass old & new with Sunny Jim and Cousin Darcy. Thursdays 7-8 PM

SEÑOR BLUES

Another look at the blues old, new and live with Qasim Hirani. Alternating Saturdays 7-9 AM

SOUNDS UKRAINIAN

A taste of all things Ukrainian, from classical to modern musics with your host Lada. Fridays 7-9 PM

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Beautiful music for your Sunday morning, with alternating hosts. Sundays 11 AM-NOON.

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CKUA RADIO

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THE CELTIC SHOW WITH ANDY DONNELLY

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DEAD ENDS & DETOURS WITH PETER NORTH

A weekly journey into the expansive Grateful Dead catalogue that touches on many of the Dead's influences, musical friends and side projects. Saturdays 8-10 AM

FOLK ROUTES WITH TOM COXWORTH

Tom explores the many tributaries of folk music through the various connections and pathways travelled in this wide musical genre. Sundays 10 AM-NOON

FREEWAY WITH DAVID WARD

A wide-ranging, carefully cultivated mix of sounds that will make your afternoon commute a pleasure. Weekdays 4-6 PM

THE FRIDAY NIGHT BLUES PARTY WITH CAM HAYDEN

A wild ride through the musical landscape of the blues, covering the new and the not-so-new, as well as the local live blues music scene. Fridays 9 PM-MIDNIGHT

PHOTO BY - STEPHEN WREAKES





PHOTO BY - ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ

IN THE PINES WITH PETER NORTH

Named after the classic folk song that was given a definitive bluegrass treatment by Bill Monroe in 1941, the show is much like the life of the song, wrapped up in musical history. Thursdays 6-7 PM

THE LABEL WITH MEG WILCOX

Each week Meg traces the progression of one influential record label from establishment to present day, playing the music that made the imprint famous. Tuesdays 6-7 PM

LIONEL'S VINYLs WITH LIONEL RAULT

An upbeat, at times irreverent, and revisionist look back at the vinyl era, via Rockabilly, blues, funk, soul gospel, pop, swing and reggae. Saturdays 7-9 PM

MID-MORNING MOJO WITH BABA

Baba uses his wonderful sense of groove to good advantage weekday mornings, mixing a tasteful blend of folk, jazz, pop and world beat. Weekdays 9 AM-NOON

MULLIGAN STEW WITH TERRY DAVID MULLIGAN

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NATCH'L BLUES WITH HOLGER PETERSEN

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ROY'S RECORD ROOM WITH ROY FORBES

Roy Forbes, the artist formerly known as Bim, explores the roots of rockabilly, country, and pop from the Shellac Shack. Mondays 6-7 PM

SOMETHIN' ELSE WITH LIONEL RAULT

Lionel brings his signature sound to the middle of the afternoon, with an up-tempo and musically diverse mix of rock, folk, pop, indie, jazz and world beat. Weekdays 2-4 PM

THE SPOT WITH HAYLEY MUIR

Expect an impeccable selection of funk, R&B, rock, twang, and roots flavours. Weekdays NOON-2 PM

THE TAKEAWAY WITH VARIOUS HOSTS

Offering up the savoury songs of the week — no genre or era is off-limits — with advanced singles, new albums and classics that root them all. Saturdays 9 PM-MIDNIGHT

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WHERE ARE WE?

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(See map on pages 2-3)

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- Activities in the park
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CRAFTS!

- Wool melting – come make your own juggling balls or beads!
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STORIES!

- Join our talented story tellers for a folk tale or two. All ages welcome.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL FAMILIES:

The Family Fun Area is a place on site that is to be enjoyed by the whole family. The activities within this area are for the entire family to participate in.

While we do adhere to safety protocols and procedures in all our activities, we do not assume responsibility for your child. Please do not leave your children unattended in our area and use your discretion in the activities they participate in. While we are more than happy to play alongside you, YOU still need to be there!

Please be sure to keep your family ready for the day with water, snacks, hats, sunscreen and bug repellent.

And ... since we are in the Family Fun Area, let's have fun!

Crafts

ARUNA

With over 30 years experience in Mendhi body art designs, Aruna excels in traditional and the latest elegant and intricate designs to suit the festival mood.

BURLAP SAC DESIGNS

Delight at the works of locally based designer Kayley Therrien as she combines unexpected treasures with metal and stone to create truly unusual adornments for men and women.

burlapsac.com

CARICATURES BY SUSANNE

Take home a unique souvenir of your festival weekend. These quirky, fun drawings are a unique record of your folk fest experience.

members.shaw.ca/artforms

DAHLIA DRIVE

Dahlia Drive gathers discarded women's slips and men's shirts and reworks them with colour, images and textures to create one of a kind fashion for the unique individual. The newest collection is called Ravens, Eagles, Polka Dots; a collaboration with reknown Haida artists Reg Davidson.

www.dahliadrive.com

FLIGHT PATH DESIGNS

Our leather accessories are made with a commitment to creating an alternative to mass produced products, and to supporting local economies. All our pieces are created with attention to detail, design and functionality.

www.flightpathdesigns.etsy.com

FWEGGA LEATHER DESIGN

Fwegga Leather Design has been making unique leather products for almost a decade. Every time you visit Fwegga's booth, you can be

sure to find something new! Leather masks, belts, mini top hats are only a sampling of the items you might find.

HISTORIC, ANCIENT AND NOTABLE JEWELRY

Marcia and Amy Fossey design jewelry using 100 year old historic trade beads, 2000 year old Roman glass, and semi precious stones. Their jewelry is enjoyed by those who love a unique and one-of-a-kind show piece.

JASON BLOWER ILLUSTRATION

When describing Jason's style of illustration one would likely arrive at whimsical. Artwork that portrays Edmonton landmarks and much more. Jason approaches his work from a "sunshine and lollipops" point of view, where everything is fun and happy.

jasonblower.com

PHOTO BY - THOMAS O'HARA





PHOTO BY - DELBERT KOSTURA

KAREN RHEBERGEN WORKS OF ART

Karen paints to commit to memory a moment that would otherwise fade. Her watercolours, acrylic and batik works celebrate the beauty of life. She will have both originals and various sizes of prints for sale.

KAT CADEGAN JEWELRY

A collection of high quality hand-made sterling silver jewellery influenced by her natural surroundings in Revelstoke, BC and her love of travel. Each piece is lovingly hand made incorporating recycled materials when possible. Wearable art to last for years to come.

LITTLE ROCK JEWELLERY STUDIO

Jewellery art objects from sterling silver, precious and semi-precious stones and found items. littlerockjewellerystudio.com

LODEN

Each unique piece is 100% Canadian made clothing that is fun, functional and beautiful. Original hand-printed artwork is printed on sustainable fiber garments. lodenclothing.com

MAJESTY INDUSTRIES

Julie Morrison has been making vegan bags and wallets since 2004. Every season she silkscreens new patterns and tries new things. Many

designs will satisfy the nerd in you. Sustainable cork is a big feature with travel wallets, luggage tags and bags. majestyindustries.com

MARC SIMARD

Marc Simard hand-makes everything using only his own, original artwork working with recycled, off-cut and scrap leather, fabric and wood. Quality and functionality are the most important elements in the creation of these unusual pieces. marcsimardartisan.com

MELONHEAD KNITWEAR

Beautiful handspun yarn is used to create wonderful fibre art knitwear – hats, scarves and more wonderful colour and textures. This is also a chance for knitters and other fibre artists to stock up on some fabulous yarns for their own art. melonheadknitwear.com

MOUNTAINS AND MONSTERS

A crafty couple who live and work in Jasper National Park who have been designing and hand making plush toys and fabric art for a number of years. The adorable dopey-eyed mountain pillows and furry monster plushies are inspired by the wilderness around them, and the creatures that walk through it. Sure to be a big hit with kids and adults alike!

MUMBLE TEASE

A one-lady shirt company featuring silly, smile inducing designs that are silk screened onto a variety of styles of shirts for men, women and children. All creations are made by hand by Calgary-based illustrator Heather Reinhardt. mumbletease.com

ORAPPA CREEK FIBRE ART

Helen Gladson is a felt artist living on a small farm near Edmonton. Intrigued by colour, texture and form, she starts with wool and

magically turns her raw materials into wonderful pieces of art in the traditional art of wet felting. In addition, Helen hand paints mohair yarn and has custom knit and dyed mohair socks available to keep your toes warm AND colourful.

PEACE, LOVE & HAPPINESS TYE DYED STUFF

Local artist Jennifer MacKay hand ties and dyes, one of a kind, wearable art for the whole family. From socks to bedsheets, in a spectrum of colours and designs, Peace Love and Happiness is sure to brighten your day.

PIXIE GLASSWORKS

A passion for flame-working with glass, combining with a successful aromatherapy line brings us innovative and beautiful glass products to wear and decorate your home.

RIMANCHIK

Accessories with a focus on modern design, Rimanchik uses cuts and distinctive leathers, textiles, and hardware combinations to achieve practical and innovative items for all. rimanchik.com

SABRINA BUTTERFLY DESIGNS

Naturally comfortable women's clothing, unique detailing with quality and fit makes a signature Sabrina Butterfly piece. sabinabutterflydesigns.ca

SALGADO FENWICK

Two artists who hand draw and silk screen every garment. A new collection for every season, the artworks can tell a story which becomes more creative the longer you look.

SHARON JONG

Sharon Jong celebrates many avenues of creative expression and her artistic journeys have been a constant source of strength, renewal,

and growth. She creates life as her heart feels it and in her work she sees reflections of herself. Her current artistic passions are painting, sculpting and felting. If it feels whimsical, she will try it.

SIMPLY BAMBOO

Scott is back with his collection of handcrafted bamboo woodwind instruments including: flutes, panpipes, shakuhachis. Irish whistles, didgeridoos, and more.

TWISTED WOOD GUITARS

Specializing in handcrafted Weissenborn-style acoustic lap slide guitars, as well as ukuleles and accessories. These instruments are truly works of art.

URBAN FOREST DESIGN STUDIO

Beautiful, earthy pottery design that integrates traditional techniques with local materials and modern ideas. Using waste wood as fuel for their kiln lends itself to their endeavor to create beautiful things while leaving as small an environmental footprint as possible. urbanforestdesign.com

VOILA BY/PAR ANDREANNE

Métis fashion designer Andréanne crafts beautiful, comfortable and sustainable women's clothing. Featuring stunning original

aboriginal design, and hand made details, Voilà Par Andréanne brings you inspired pieces.

WHOLLY MAMA

Made from the heart, Wholly Mama offers homemade, organic aromatic products to soothe the body, soul and senses. From our home to yours.

WINDY TREE ARTISAN

This unique jewelry is handcrafted from Arbutus branches that have fallen naturally. The design is then carved individually and free-hand with a scroll saw, making each an original piece of art. windytreetartisan.ca

YUTAL JEWELRY FUSION

Working side by side, this husband and wife team creates fine crafted jewelry with inspiration from our native country. Bringing different skills and particular specialties, we are constantly creating a refreshing new body of work.

ZAM!

Zany... amazing... magical. Powered by the whimsy, love laughter and the sparkle of life. Inspiring creative play with toys, juggling balls, jester hats, wings and more. Wander by the wonderful world of Zam and play with us.

PHOTO BY - DELBERT KOSTURA



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Behind it All

PHOTO BY - STEPHEN WREAKES



BACK ROW From left to right: Melanie Cheek, Lana Nordlund, Brad Odsen, Kathie Goertz Thompson, Tami Romanchuk, Craig Moses
FRONT ROW From left to right: Peter Guest, Chelsea Donelon, Gerrit Bjalek

PHOTO BY - STEPHEN WREAKES



BACK ROW left to right: Stephane Levesque, Katie Sowden, Terry Wickham, Richard Stuart, Mike Ford, Morris Bujarski
MIDDLE ROW: Kathy Morin, Claire Stewart, Connie McCall, Glenda Dennis, Vicki Fannon, Helen Stuart, Tanya Corbin, Jessica Kresta, Joel Moore, Astrid Bruce.
DOWN IN FRONT: Dennis Franz, Sarah Carlson, Shauna Stewart, Marianne Stover, Karly Peters
MISSING: Margaret Crowe, Lorie Miseck, Tom Picard, Matteo Zenari



PHOTO BY - DELBERT KOSTURA

Eat to the Beat

"An Army Marches On Its Stomach" attributed to both Fredrick the Great and Napoleon still holds true. The festival has close to 3000 volunteers and performers, all of whom need to be well fed in order to perform their duties.

We believe that our kitchen is one of the largest field kitchens in the province providing six main meals as well as beverages and snacks for four days in August. While they are supervised by our Kitchen Manager and a small support staff, over 250 volunteers, including 30 coordinators and assistants carry this out. Most return year after year, sometimes coming from afar to participate.

The Festival Kitchen crew is sub divided into eight smaller groups, each dedicated to performing a specific task from preparing the main courses, salads and desserts to serving the meals, and of course cleaning up after meals and scrubbing the cookware. Some start their duties the week before the festival takes place, preparing for the main event.

Thanks to the high return rate and the honing of the operation over the years, the kitchen runs like clockwork. We are grateful to the dedicated group of volunteers who work so hard to maintain the high standards the volunteers and performers enjoy.

The Volunteer Team

Vicki, Marianne & Katie



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They will be remembered.

Ten of our valued volunteers from the Folkfest family passed away over the last year. To their families we express condolences, our appreciation for all the hard work they did to make the festival better, and to say how much they will be missed by their crews and everyone who knew them.

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Go Wildly Forward Scholarship

The Don Snider "Go Wildly Forward" scholarship is an Edmonton Folk Music Festival program that recognizes and honours Folkfest volunteers who demonstrate, through their actions and attitudes, a desire to engage meaningfully in the community and the world at large.

The scholarship is in honour of long-time folk festival production manager Don Snider, who worked in the arts for over 40 years. Recipients of the scholarship embody Don's spirit of adventure, curiosity, and a willingness to share this knowledge and experiences with others.

This year, the committee has award a scholarship to Lauren Baugh. Lauren is a long time folk fest attendee and has been volunteering on site crew for nine years. Lauren completed an undergraduate degree in psychology and has worked and volunteered with children with special needs since completing her degree, currently working in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder research at the University of Alberta. In September, Lauren will begin a master's degree in speech-language pathology.



Applicants must:

- Volunteer for Edmonton Folk Music Festival
- Be in good standing with the Festival for at least two years
- Intend to pursue a program of study leading to a recognized licence, certificate, diploma, undergraduate or professional degree

Strong applications will emphasize the applicant's

- Maturity and a commitment to their studies
- Motivation to engage in the community and the world at large
- Studies as part of a strong plan to move wildly forward
- Willingness to share their knowledge and experience with others
- Financial need and what difference the award will make in moving wildly forward
- Spirit of adventure

Past recipients are encouraged to reapply.

This award cannot fund programs retroactively. If you have already completed a program, you are not eligible.

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Love Connection

It's no secret that meeting new people is part of the fun of the folk festival. And sometimes those meetings turn into something else! A couple of years ago, the folk fest asked to hear the stories of those who had found love at the festival. These are two stories we received.

TARA AND BLAIR ASSALY

Both Tara and Blair Assaly were new to the festival when they headed, separately down to the hill in 1996. It was pure fortune: Tara had been living in Whitehorse and had come to Edmonton to visit some old friends. The girlfriend of Blair's roommate was sick and gave him her pass.

Neither knew quite what to expect so the future couple, paths as yet uncrossed, both headed to the beer gardens. Tara remembers: "I first noticed my soul mate in the beer tent, wearing Kenny G locks and soft corduroy shorts. I said to my girlfriend, 'See him over there, I like his style.'" The noticing was certainly reciprocated, except that Blair wasn't sure if Tara's brother, with whom she was sitting, was her boyfriend.

Several beers later, Tara found herself in one of the notoriously inefficient Porta potty lineups. "Everyone was distracted and kept missing open opportunities," she says. She wasn't going to wait in line while there were stalls free that no one was noticing. "As I was slipping past the line my 'Kenny G' grabbed my elbow and said, 'Hey there's a line!'" They didn't see each other again until, after shutting down the beer gardens, she saw him dancing, his curls bouncing. She went up and introduced herself.

Two years later, the two were married. On her way to the 1998 folk festival, Tara found out that she was pregnant

with their first child. And ten years after that fateful Porta potty lineup, the couple has three boys who, quite naturally, have been attending the festival almost every year since.

TINA AND STEVE BAKER

Sure, folk festival advance tickets sell out every year well before the festival. But you can always hope to buy a spare day pass at the gates... which is how Tina and Steve Baker met.

Steve didn't intend on going to the folk festival. He just wanted a ride in his friend's Porsche on a beautiful Thursday evening in August, 2000. His friend went to snag a ticket and convinced Steve to come along.

"I walked in the gates and I was an immediate folkie," Steve recalls. They met up with his friend's friends, one of whom was an enchanting woman named Tina Bird. The night went well — he learned of her love for fruit berries and caramels and was determined to bring them for Friday.

Friday he had a ticket, and it rained: "We gathered with others under a tarp and huddled together to stay warm. The night ended too soon," says Steve. "And with it came a fear that I wouldn't be able to secure a ticket for Saturday or Sunday."

He went on the hunt for weekend tickets and succeeded. They spent a Folk-Fest-magical weekend together. "After Sunday's singing of 'Four Strong Winds,' I walked Tina to her car and found the courage to ask her out." Two years later, they married. And, a 2013 trip to Europe excepted, they have been to every folk festival since. Since 2006, these trips have included their daughter, Ella, too.



TARA AND BLAIR



STEVE AND TINA

PHOTOS BY - STEPHEN WREAKES

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View from the Hill

Well that was quite the year in Alberta. As I write this piece we are not sold out for the first time in many years. We are doing comparatively well compared to other music festivals in Alberta and I am grateful once again for the loyalty shown to our festival especially during the current economic climate.

We continue to invest in the festival. More shade tents have been added and we will purchase more shade tents as move forward. New scaffolding has been designed for Stage 6 and will be installed once we have permission from the City of Edmonton. We will also move into the Jerry Forbes Centre and triple our warehouse space, enhancing our ability to store

our resources and lend them to other events and festivals.

You will notice other changes such as enhanced Access services to Stages 1, 6 and 7 and we have engaged an outside agency to do a full audit of our services to those with disabilities. Why not be ahead of the curve?

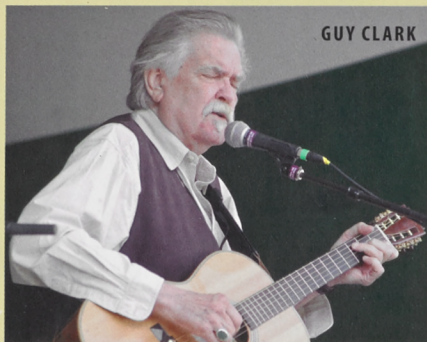
Friday and Saturday nights will now end at midnight and we are in discussions with the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission about how to incorporate full site licensing during the "sessions hours" next year. Satellite serving stations would close before Main Stage starts. Experience at other festivals tells us that this will not lead to overconsumption.



I am very pleased to report that our funding issue with the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) has been resolved. I would like to thank Heather Klimchuk for starting the ball rolling and David Eggen and Ricardo Miranda for their follow through. Change of this magnitude also involves a lot of work for staff at AFA. Jeffrey Anderson and Helen Chimirri-Russell showed commendable leadership on this file.

You can expect major inconveniences for the next two festivals due to LRT construction. As a festival we had to look at all aspects of the LRT around Gallagher Park and the advantages of mass transit outweighed the losses, for the festival anyway.

This is also a good time to remember those we have lost and to celebrate their lives. Dick Finkel was the founder of the Edmonton Street Performers Festival. It wouldn't be here without him. I always found Guy Clark to be as humble as his songs were brilliant. He was a true southern gentleman. Will we see his like in the future? Jim Brennan was one of our original volunteers, a firefighter in Edmonton and a kind and compassionate man. There is a bench in his honour at the Volunteer tent to the east of Stage 3. Kim Larsen was a great friend, an ex chair of the Board and a wonderful ambassador for our festival, at home and abroad. He was



the epitome of grace under pressure as he dealt with constant medical emergencies over the past five years. My father-in-law, Harry Miseck was a railway man who spent his working years in northern Alberta. A father of six, he was also a great man for a story and he had plenty of them. I will miss him at Stage 3 on Sunday morning. The world is a much poorer place without these colourful characters.

For now, I hope you have a wonderful weekend of music and if you feel like dancing non-stop then please head down to the Dance Areas to the left and right of Main Stage, leaving those behind you a full view of Main Stage.

Slainte (to your health),

Terry Wickham

Producer

Four Strong Winds

Four strong winds that blow lonely,
Seven seas that run high,
All those things that don't change, come what may ...
Our good times are all gone,
I'm bound for moving on.
I'll look for you if I'm ever back this way.

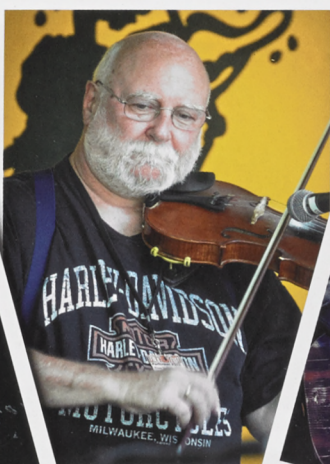
Think I'll go out to Alberta,
Weather's good there in the fall.
Got some friends that I can go to working for,
Still I wish you'd change your mind
If I ask you one more time,
But we've been through this a hundred times or more.

If I get there before the snow flies,
If things are looking good,
You could meet me if I send you down the fare—
But by then it will be winter,
Not too much for you to do
And these winds sure do blow cold way out there.

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ELIZA GYLKYSON | PHOTO BY FRANK CHOPINE



BRIAN MCNEILL | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



ELLA COYES | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA

2015
A LOOK
BACK AT

EDMONTON FOLK FESTIVAL



LE VENT DU NORD | PHOTO BY TARA KOSTURA



LE VENT DU NORD | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



MOUSIN ZAMAN | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE KAMPE



LUCIUS | PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ



LAURA MARLING | PHOTO BY FRANK GASPARIK



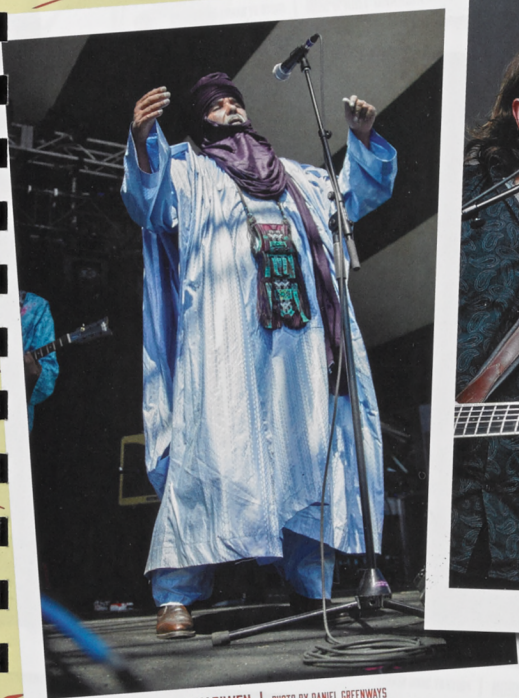
BRANDI CARLILE | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



ANGUS AND JULIA STONE | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



GOOD FOR GRAPES | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



TINARIWEN | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



MIKE FARRIS | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



RICHARD THOMPSON | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



LORD HURON | PHOTO BY DAVID KENNEY



OF MONSTERS AND MEN | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



NATHANIEL RATELIFF & THE NIGHTSWEATS | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



BRADEN GATES | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



ERIN KAY | PHOTO BY TARIKA KUSTURA



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THE ONCE | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



EDWARD SHARPE AND THE MAGNETIC ZEROS | PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ



OSCAR LOPEZ | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



FRAZEY FORD | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



BILL BOURNE | PHOTO BY CHRIS ARMSTRONG



THE MILK CARTON KIDS | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



BEAR'S DEN | PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ



THE DUHKS | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



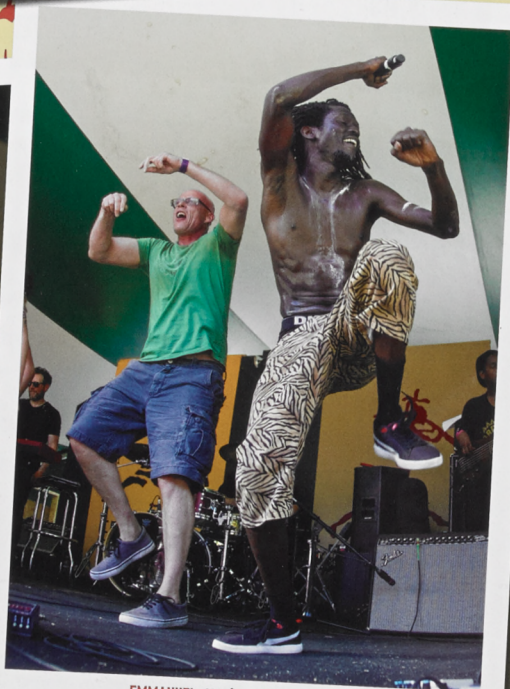
JENN GRANT | PHOTO BY STEPHANIE HAMPLE



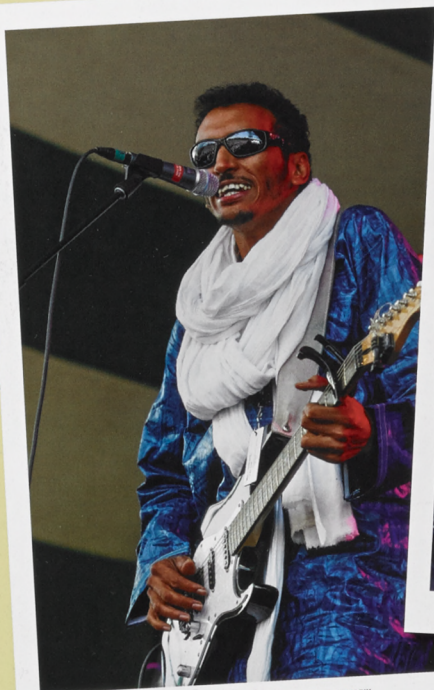
DANNY MICHEL | PHOTO BY ERIC KOZAKIEWICZ



THE FAIRFIELD FOUR | PHOTO BY DAVID KENNEY



EMMANUEL JAI | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



BOMBINO | PHOTO BY FRANK GASPARIK



HANGGAI | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



EDDIE BERMAN | PHOTO BY FRANK GASPARIK



POST SCRIPT | PHOTO BY CHRIS ARMSTRONG



I'M WITH HER | PHOTO BY STEPHEN WREAKES



LES HAY BABIES | PHOTO BY THOMAS D'HARA



HARRY MANX | PHOTO BY DEL KOSTURA



MAKANA | PHOTO BY DANIEL GREENWAYS



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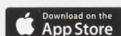
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